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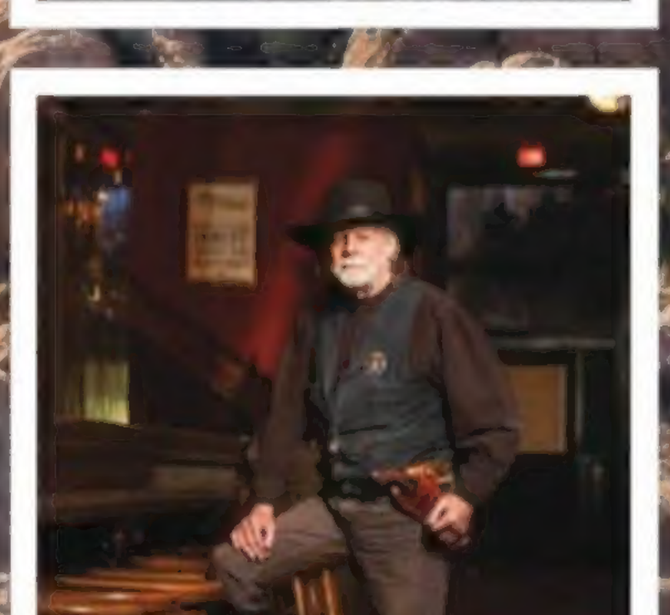

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In 1898, Alaskans began building a new trail from Valdez, on the Prince William Sound, to the goldfields near Eagle City and Fairbanks. The trail would not be completed until 1906, and later would be developed into an automobile track called the Richardson Road. In the early years of the trail, the United States Postal Service used it to deliver the mail by bicycle, mule, horse or dogsled through the most difficult conditions, including over Thompson Pass, one of the more daunting challenges for man, beast—and mail carrier.

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HISTORY OF THE AMERICAN FRONTIER

True West captures the spirit of the West with authenticity, personality and humor by providing a necessary link from our history to our present.

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Bob Boze Bell snapped a photo of his office this month and titled it "Studio Duress." It's been a busy few months for our executive editor! Keep up with BBB's shenanigans on the *True West* blog.

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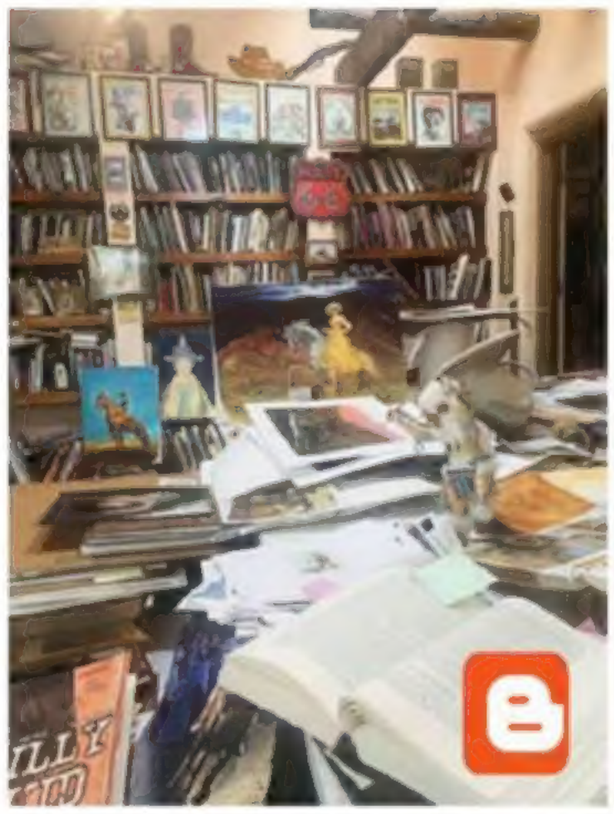

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Naiche, the youngest son of Chiricahua Apache Chief Cochise, was among the three Apache leaders who signed on to U.S. Army Capt. Hugh L. Scott's plan and even rode with Geronimo in a number of reservation breakouts. He's photographed here with his wife, Haozinne. Like us on Facebook to get your daily dose of *True West* history.

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– IMAGE COURTESY MAVERICK PUBLISHING COMPANY –

Judging by the saddle style, this unidentified cowboy was working in the late 1870s or 1880s. In his holster, he carries a Colt model 1873 single action revolver with hard rubber grips, and he has looped his left arm around a Winchester model 1873 carbine in a saddle scabbard. For facts and photos posted daily, be sure to follow us on Instagram.

Instagram.com/TWMag

– COURTESY ARIZONA HISTORICAL SOCIETY –

Alchesay and his neighbor, John Dazan, adapted to raising livestock as a major source of providing for their families. The old days of raiding and hunting were no more. Find more amazing photos of heroes like Alchesay on our American Indians Pinterest board.

Pinterest.com/TWmag.com

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TRUTH BE KNOWN

COMPILED BY THE EDITORS OF *TRUE WEST*

Old Vaquero Saying

"Sometimes one day changes everything; sometimes years change nothing."

Quotes

"There will come a time when you think everything is finished. Yet that will be the beginning."

– Louis L'Amour

– COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS –

"Texas has yet to learn submission to any oppression, come from what source it may."

– Sam Houston

"It's a good deed to forget a bad joke."

– Brendan Behan, Irish Republican, poet, short story writer

"The human race has one really effective weapon, and that is laughter."

– Will Rogers

"I don't want to live. I want to love first, and live incidentally."

– Zelda Fitzgerald

"When I was a boy, I was told that anybody could become President. I'm beginning to believe it."

– Clarence Darrow

"There ain't a man livin' that hasn't talked to his dog."

– Hank Williams

– FROM "BARBAROSA," COURTESY ITC –

"I'm from Texas, and one of the reasons I like Texas is because there's no one in control."

– Willie Nelson

"What this country needs is more unemployed politicians."

– Edward Langley

"Some memories are realities, and are better than anything that can ever happen to one again."

– Willa Cather

"Old people shouldn't eat health foods. They need all the preservatives they can get."

– Robert Orben

– CARTOON COLLECTIONS.COM –

"I had to do it, Jeb. He was grilling zucchini."

BY BOB BOZE BELL

The Kids Return

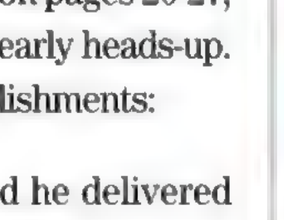
Billy and the Top Secret Writer are in the House.

This issue marks the return of two of my favorite "Kids." One is the legendary outlaw who sparked in me a lifetime of research on his short and violent life, and the other is the legendary scholar who, so far, has had a long and peaceful life, interrupted by eloquent tirades against the machine (Academia with a capital A).

Our creative designers and editors worked overtime to process and complete my third and final book on Billy the Kid. Check out a few samples of the book's new artwork on pages 40-42.

And then, back to the other Kid—there's the Top Secret Writer who is about to be named the 2021 True Westerner of the Year. Traditionally, we announce the winner in January, but since he has the cover story, "The Forgotten Founding Father," on pages 20-27, we thought we'd give you an early heads-up. Here are a few of his accomplishments:

- He's won four Spurs and he delivered O.J's baby in *Naked Gun 2½*.
- This issue marks his 12th cover story, 10 since I took ownership.
- His last cover story for *True West* was November 2018—"When the West Was True."
- His next book is *The Undiscovered Country: The Epic Story of the Opening of the American West* to be published by Dutton/Random House in early 2022. It is a history of the American frontier from the French and Indian War to 1900.
- The Billy book is, in fact, dedicated to him. He has been a constant source of inspiration and encouragement. Here's looking at you, Kid!



For a behind-the-scenes look at running this magazine, check out BBB's daily blog at TWMag.com

Part of our rationale for the third and final Billy the Kid book is that in the past 21 years our contributing editors and writers have uncovered a great deal of new scholarship about the legendary outlaw, and we thought it was only fitting that we gather it all up in one final book. It wasn't as easy as it sounds as we had to catalogue and sort through the new stuff, then vet it with the previous book and shoehorn it all in, all the while working remotely! Ouch!

L-r.: Paul Andrew Hutton, BBB, Buckeye Blake and Drew Gomber sitting at the foot of the window where the Kid shot down his guard, Bob Olinger, who died at our feet in this macabre photo. One of the dudes in this photo is about to be named the 2021 True Westerner of the Year.

– KEN AMOROSANO –

OUR READERS REMIND US OF THE VARIABLES AND VAGARIES OF HISTORIC TRUTHS, "WELL-ESTABLISHED" FACTS, HEADLINES AND HISTORICAL PHOTOGRAPHS.

THE COMPLEXITIES OF THE EXTENDED EARP FAMILY

Virgil Earp and his granddaughters

– COURTESY JIM EARLE –

I read with great interest, and would like to congratulate you on, your October 2020 issue. I especially enjoyed Ron Williams' fine article , "Virgil Returns," on Virgil and Allie's life in Prescott and Kirkland Valley, Arizona, at the end of the 19th and beginning of the 20th centuries. I would like to correct a couple minor errors, though.

In the last paragraph Williams states, "Allie would live another 42 years in San Bernardino (should read "Los Angeles") with Virgil's family." It should read "her own family," as Hildreth Halliwell, who was Allie's grandniece, was the granddaughter of her sister Lydia." This is an error I have also observed in several other publications and would hate to have it perpetuated. I presume it hints that Allie spent her last years living with her good friend–Virgil's sister Adelia Earp Edwards.

Of note is the fact that Virgil's brother James also lived with Hildreth (at that time going by her maiden name McAdams, as she had not yet married) during the last year of his life, along with Allie, and until his death on January 25, 1926.

This is important because Hildreth Halliwell, who was born in Virgil and Allie's home in Prescott on January 23, 1896, and lived there with them until she was six years old, would subsequently sit for a prolonged recorded interview regarding her time with the Earp family (James, "Aunt Allie," "Uncle Virg," Wyatt, "Sadie"/Josephine, Adelia...) and some of their associates (John Clum, John Flood).

On September 21, 1971, prior to her own 1973 death, Hildred shared with Earp historians Al Turner and Bill Oster some of her own personal remembrances, as well as stories she was told regarding Doc Holliday and Warren and Morgan Earp. Interestingly, she also gave her own, and Allie's, expressed opinions, of latter-day controversial author/historians Frank Waters, John Gilchriese (who spent considerable time with Allie) and Glenn Boyer.

—David D. de Haas, MD, coauthor (along with Virgil Earp biographer Don Chaput) of the newly released book, The Earps Invade Southern California
Dana Point, California

Thank you for clarifying some of the complexities of the Earp Clan, their relationships and living arrangements. Most of us would benefit from an Earp family tree and timeline to illuminate the divergent paths of patriarch Nicolas Earp's infamous progeny.

TINNY TIRADE

I wouldn't want your job which entails glorifying outlaws, murderers and thieves. My integrity means more to me than fame and fortune. The lawless Old West myth was created by journalists, so-called historians, dime-novelists and movie producers.

—Franklin L. Boren, Tinnie, New Mexico

We believe Mr. Boren is about half right. The lawlessness in the Old West was real enough—as is the lawlessness in our own era. Was it fanned by journalists and so-called historians? Absolutely. But that doesn't mean the lawlessness didn't exist.

ALL ROADS LEAD TO PRESCOTT

Bradley G. Courtney's article on Virgil Earp, "Birth of a Lawman," in the October 2020 issue is very interesting. I would like to offer a little information on how William Henry Harrison McCall got to Prescott.

– TRUE WEST ARCHIVES –

McCall and Jack Stilwell (below, right) had served together as members of Forsyth's frontier scouts during the Beecher Island battle, near Wray, Colorado, in September 1868. By 1873, both men were at Fort Sill, Indian Territory, where their friendship and association as scouts and plainsmen grew. In the spring of 1877, McCall, Jack Stilwell, with the addition of Jack's brother Frank Stilwell, became associated in a teamster business bound for Arizona Territory. Joined by several other men, including Robert Tullos, the journey originated at the Wichita Agency at Anadarko in the Indian Territory. Their Arizona destination was Prescott, the territorial capital, and Fort Whipple, where they were seeking civilian employment.

At Fort Whipple, McCall served as a courier and remained in Arizona. Jack served as a packer and guide, though became dissatisfied and soon went to Fort Davis and Fort Stockton in west Texas. Frank did little more than get into trouble before joining Ham Light's freighting business and going to Tombstone and Charleston in Pima County, Arizona.

In Prescott, McCall and the Stilwell brothers had a brief connection with Virgil Earp, Sheriff Ed Bowers and U.S. Marshal Wiley Standefer at the time of the killing of Robert Tullos. One of the Stilwell brothers was called to testify at the subsequent inquest, though the newspapers identified him only as "Mr. Stilwell," most likely a reference to Jack Stilwell. Sadly, McCall lived only a short time afterwards, dying June 13, 1883, at the age of 43; he is buried in the Citizen's Cemetery at Prescott.

—Roy B. Young, co-editor of A Wyatt Earp Anthology: Long May His Story Be Told
Apache, Oklahoma

The more we learn about Arizona Territorial history, the more we discover how many of Arizona's early pioneers—no matter which side of the law they ended up on—lived and worked in or near Prescott.

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Though they had many unforgettable screen roles in their career, many of us remember them best for their Westerns and war movies. There was something about the legendary days of the Old West, something uniquely American that fit Wayne and Mitchum perfectly. In dozens of films, they starred in roles as cavalrymen, lawmen, cowboys or ranchers. Audiences flocked to the theater to see them in such memorable western classics as *The Searchers, El Dorado, 5 Card Stud, Rio Bravo, Red River, She Wore a Yellow Ribbon,* and *The Wonderful Country.*

Today, John Wayne and Robert Mitchum remain among the most popular actors in Hollywood history. Even now, years after their deaths, their names continue to rank among the most popular movie stars. Thanks to cable, satellite TV, and internet streaming, their classic movies are still seen every day by fans around the world, and their legendary lives live on for their legions of fans.

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The right side of the receiver features portraits of John Wayne and Robert Mitchum with an Old West firearm in their hands. Both sides of the receiver feature a banner that reads "John Wayne – Robert Mitchum Tribute." The portraits on both sides are surrounded by elegant scrollwork that was a hallmark of the finest presentation firearms.

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The left side of the receiver features two images of John Wayne and Robert Mitchum. To the left, Wayne and Mitchum sit atop their horses as they look across the plains for any sign of danger. To the right, classic portraits of John Wayne and Robert Mitchum are featured.

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BY MARK BOARDMAN

The Battle Over Salt

The San Elizario salt flats were the prize in a Texas feud.

Insurgent snipers manned the rooftops to rain fire down on the Texas Rangers' compound.

The insurgents came from all walks of life. And, unlike the stereotypical portrait of the insurgent leader, Chico Barela is described as "a quiet man, fair for a Mexican, with brown hair and blue eyes."

– ILLUSTRATIONS BY BOB BOZE BELL –

People fought over a lot of things in the West. Precious metals. Grazing lands. Water. Even salt. Yep, that white mineral was the subject of a long-term feud southeast of El Paso near the town of San Elizario.

It started just after the Civil War. Local Hispanics—on both sides of the border—claimed traditional community rights to the salt deposits, which were used to preserve meat and more. But in 1866, the Texas Constitution allowed individuals to claim mineral rights to the area. Many of them were Anglos. The struggle was on. And it had racial/ethnic and national overtones.

In 1877, Virginia native Charles Howard claimed the salt lakes in the name of his father-in-law. Howard was planning to charge the Hispanics for salt from his claims—and he used local Texan law officers to enforce it. But there was resistance. In October 1877, several hundred Hispanics took him hostage and held him for three days. Howard was released after he paid a $12,000 bond and relinquished his rights.

Howard left the area briefly but returned to kill one of the Hispanic leaders. Howard ran again, escaping a huge mob that was after his head. But he came back, this time on December 12, 1877. He was not alone. Lieutenant John Tays had a 20-man contingent of Texas Rangers who were charged with protecting Howard and his salt rights. They were walking into a buzz saw.

Out of the approximately 5,000 residents of the San Elizario area, only 100 were Anglos. The Hispanics controlled the region, except for local government offices, and had a vastly superior force, certainly numerically. The Ranger force was newly recruited and had little training or unit cohesion.

When Howard and the lawmen entered San Elizario, they were immediately confronted by an overwhelming force of armed Hispanics. Realizing their dilemma, the group took refuge in the town church. After a two-day siege, Tays gave up; it was the only time in Ranger history that a unit surrendered to an opposing force. The mob took Howard, Ranger Sgt. John McBride and merchant John Atkinson captive. The three were executed, their bodies hacked to bits and dumped into a well. The rest of the Rangers were disarmed and ordered out of town.

Anglo civic leaders of San Elizario crossed the border into Mexico to escape. Most never came back. Meanwhile, members of the mob looted the town and destroyed several buildings.

But it was a case of the Hispanics winning the battle and losing the war.

As a result of the unrest, the county seat was moved from San Elizario to El Paso. When the railroads came through the area in the late 1880s, they bypassed San Elizario. And a regiment of Buffalo Soldiers was brought in to nearby Fort Bliss to keep an eye on things—especially on the Hispanics.

The end result: the population of the area dwindled, and the Hispanics lost much of the power and influence they'd once had—including control of the salt deposits. The salt flats are now part of the Guadalupe Mountains National Park, pristine and striking to the eye—and belying the bloodshed that took place as groups tried to claim them as their own.

The Salt War of San Elizario made national headlines in papers as far away as the *Boston Globe*, but closer to home, editors of New Mexico's *Las Vegas Gazette* worried that the abandoned Rio Grande farms of San Elizario would lead to regional wheat shortages.

– *BOSTON GLOBE* AND *LAS VEGAS GAZETTE* CLIPPINGS COURTESY NEWSPAPER.COM –

THE EL PASO TROUBLE.

Officials In Their Custody
the Lives of all Ame-
ricans Threatened.

Judge Howard, Who Is
oted to Return With
Assistance.

and Gov. Hubbard Ad-
the Facts and Be-
ent for Help.

Troops Near and Few
States Troops

EXPERIENCE THE *Old West*

CUSTER EXPEDITION

Follow George Armstrong Custer and his 1874 Expedition into the Black Hills

IN THE SHADOW OF *Devils Tower*

HULETT MUSEUM & ART GALLERY

The Hulett Museum & Art Gallery collects and preserves both prehistoric and historic artifacts, as well as supporting art and the heritage of the people of the Hulett area.

WEST TEXAS TRAIL MUSEUM

The West Texas Trail Museum, in Moorcroft, is one of the top cowboy, cattle and ranching museums in the nation! The museum keeps the memories and true spirit of the great American West alive.

CROOK COUNTY MUSEUM & ART GALLERY

The Crook County Museum, in Sundance, features over 7,000 artifacts on display from Native American history, the Custer Expedition and much more.

The museum will soon move into Old Stoney, a 1923 school building

- *Devils Tower National Monument*
- *Vore Buffalo Jump archaeological site*
- *Historic Ranch A*
- *Aladdin Tipple*
- *Keyhole Reservoir and State Park*

AREA DETAILS AT DEVILSTOWERCOUNTRY.COM

ALADDIN · BEULAH · DEVILS TOWER · HULETT · KEYHOLE · MOORCROFT · PINE HAVEN · SUNDANCE

CROOK COUNTY TOURISM PROMOTION BOARD

DEVILS TOWER COUNTRY

CIRCA 1906

BY JANA BOMMERSBACH

They Don't Make 'Em Like They Used To

But we're so lucky they once did.

The devil was never going to get them—not these German immigrants who came to Oklahoma Territory during the land rush.

William Harrison Odor and his wife, Myra, claimed bottomland along the Deep Fork tributary of the North Canadian River. It was rich land to grow cotton, but to create fields, they cleared the tall, majestic bur oaks that thrived there.

From the old country, they knew that if they soaked the oak boards while they were green, they could force them into curves, and that's exactly what they did in 1898 to create the amazing Round Barn.

"One legend is that they were highly religious people, and they believed if they built the barn round, the devil couldn't corner them there," explains Linda Simonton, president of the Arcadia Historical and Preservation Society that now owns the barn.

"The other legend is that it's round because we've got lots of wind and tornadoes in Oklahoma, and they thought a round barn would withstand the wind better."

What they created is thought to be the only truly round barn in America—as opposed to the hexagonal or octagonal barns. And it's as much a tourist attraction today as it was when Route 66 travelers first saw it back in the 1920s, when the route went right past it.

Simonton explains that the Odor farm was in the midst of a "big batch of nothing" in those first years, but William saw possibilities as rumors circulated that the railroad was coming their way. Odor and the local banker platted out the land for a town around his farm and nabbed a depot when the train arrived in 1920. Then Route 66 followed the path of the railroad, and the town of Arcadia prospered.

President of the Arcadia Historical and Preservation Society Linda Simonton (above, left) enjoys a ride on volunteer Gilbert Parks' horse "Sox" at the historic Arcadia Round Barn in Arcadia, Oklahoma.

– PHOTO COURTESY ARCADIA ROUND BARN –

The Ukulele Festival is one of the more popular annual events at the Arcadia Round Barn.

– TOM DUNNING –

While the ground floor of the barn was exactly that, storing hay for Odor's cows, the second floor had a bandstand and plenty of room to dance, and this became the community gathering place in town.

Simonton says the barn became the most photographed landmark on Route 66.

But, alas, most of Arcadia burned down and was never rebuilt, although a small community still exists there, and Simonton says it's seeing a revival these days.

Remarkably, the barn survived the devastating fire, but it couldn't fight off the elements and time. In 1988, the 60-foot diameter roof collapsed. Thanks to volunteers led by Luther Robison, the roof was restored over the next four years, and today the barn stands in all its glory to again attract visitors.

"It's my happy place," Simonton says.

Jana Bommersbach has earned recognition as Arizona's Journalist of the Year and won an Emmy and two Lifetime Achievement Awards. She cowrote the Emmy-winning *Outrageous Arizona* and has written three true crime books, a children's book and the historical novel *Cattle Kate*.

JOHN WAYNE

Wayne's movie-worn shirt from "The Searchers."
Auction estimate: $30,000-40,000

Rooster Cogburn's Winchester SRC from "True Grit."
Auction estimate: $65,000-75,000

31st ANNUAL OLD WEST SHOW AND AUCTION
MESA, ARIZONA - JANUARY 22-24, 2021

The Mesa Auction features fine bits and spurs from the Roger Wilmot collection, decorative arts from the David Little collection, Buzz Nyhart's historic Montana vigilante collection, and an assortment of amazing Hollywood cowboy items. Live, online, phone and absentee bidding available.

Call, visit our website, or follow us on social media to learn more about the Show and Auction!

BRIAN LEBEL'S OLD WEST SHOW & AUCTION

CATALOGS $30:
OldWestEvents.com
Phone: 480-779-9378

BY JOHN LANGELLIER

The Mystique of the Americas' First People

Cowan's annual American Indian Art Auction sells out.

A Large Hornstone Clovis Point, 5¼ inches

$21,250

Ashiwi Polychrome Pottery Jar

$68,750

Sioux Elk Dreamer Society Beaded Hide Tobacco Bag

$131,250

Almost immediately after Europeans arrived in North America, and for centuries thereafter, a fascination with the continent's first peoples spurred an urge to collect their art and artifacts. That same inclination remains strong today as evidenced by the bidding at the September 18, 2020, American Indian Art auction held by Cowan's. The auction house prides itself on being a leader in the field of Native art. To date, Cowan's has sold over 20 million dollars' worth of Indian objects, with live salesroom events held twice a year focusing on North American cultural and ethnographic material, as well as online-only offerings throughout the year.

As with many auctions of the past few years, lifelong collections are featured, such as several fine examples from Robert P. Jerich of Illinois, Dick Jemison of Alabama and an estate from Sinking Springs, Ohio. A stellar Sioux Elk Dreamer Society beaded hide tobacco bag topped the list, selling for $131,250. (All prices include buyer's premiums.) An Ashiwi polychrome pottery jar brought over half that amount ($68,750), while a rare Apache beaded buffalo hide shirt went for $31,250, as did an impressive Nez Perce-Cayuse beaded buffalo hide blanket strip. Many items were taken away for far less by enthusiastic bidders who found that the auction house's estimated prices typically were accurate—another Cowan's hallmark over the years.

– ALL IMAGES COURTESY OF COWAN'S AUCTIONS –

John Langellier currently is producing an annotated bibliography related to the Buffalo Soldiers and the U.S. National Parks.

An Adena Quartz Bust Birdstone, Length 2¾ inches

$21,250

Early Apache Beaded Buffalo Hide Shirt

$31,250

Kiowa Beaded Hide Boot Moccasins

$22,500

UPCOMING AUCTIONS

December 1, 2020
Art of the West (Special Online Auction)
Heritage Auctions (Dallas, TX)
HA.com • 877-437-4824

December 4-6, 2020
Premier Firearms Auction #81
Rock Island Auction Co. (Rock Island, IL)
RockIslandAuction.com • 800-238-8022

December 15-18, 2020
Field & Range Firearms & Militaria
Morphy Auctions (Denver, PA)
MorphyAuctions.com • 877-968-8880

January 21-24, 2021
31st Annual Mesa Old West Show & Auction
Brian Lebel's Old West Events (Mesa, AZ)
OldWestEvents.com • 480-779-9378

Nez Perce-Cayuse Beaded Buffalo Hide Blanket Strip

$31,250

A Rare Haida Carved Wood Pipe

$25,000

Sioux Quilled Buffalo Hide Moccasins, with Elk Dreamer Society Imagery

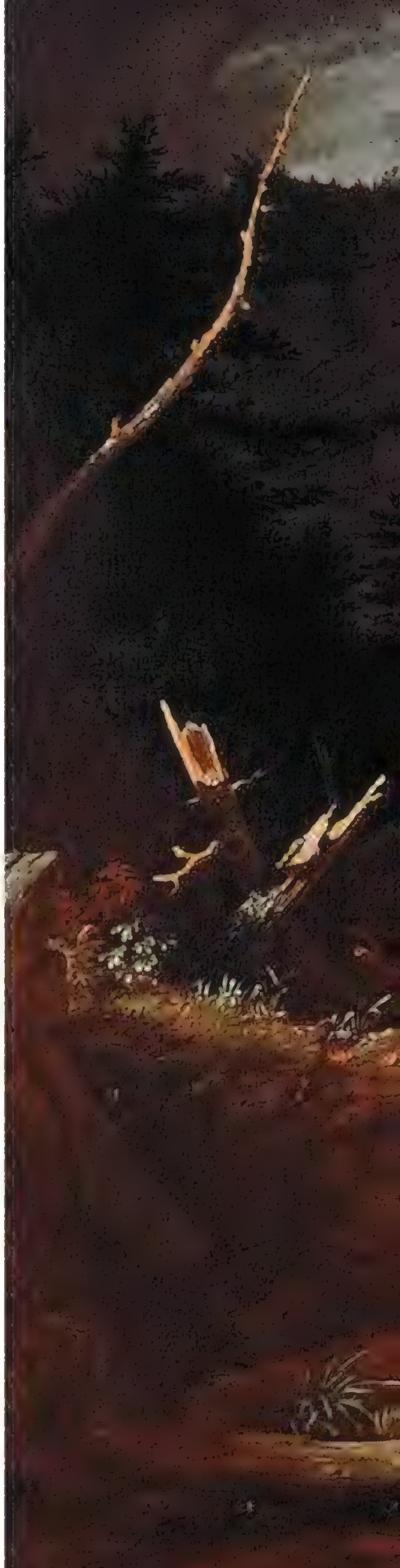
$20,000

BY PAUL ANDREW HUTTON

The Forgotten Founding Father

DANIEL BOONE AND THE BIRTH OF THE FRONTIER MOVEMENT

Early in the spring of 1774, a solitary figure rides westward over Kane's Gap into Powell's Valley, far beyond the fragile line of frontier settlements to the east. Daniel Boone, his hair plaited and clubbed up in Indian fashion, garbed in black-dyed deerskin, has come in search of the rude grave of his eldest son. James Boone and six companions had been slaughtered by Delaware, Shawnee and Cherokee Indians in October 1773 while hurrying forward with pack animals to rejoin Boone's party of Kentucky-bound emigrants. James had called pitifully for his family in his death agony as a Cherokee called Big Jim delighted in torturing him. The massacre had momentarily ended Boone's dream of a settlement in Kentucky.



Daniel Boone's Wilderness Trail over the Appalachian Mountains to Kentucky is glorified in George Caleb Bingham's 1851-52 allegorical masterpiece *Daniel Boone Escorting Settlers through the Cumberland Gap*. Eventually, more than 300,000 Western settlers (including Abraham Lincoln's grandfather) followed the trail West seeking new lands and opportunity in Kentucky and beyond.

– ALL IMAGES TRUE WEST ARCHIVES UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED –

Without the stubborn leadership of Daniel Boone and, despite great personal loss, his settlement and years of fighting to defend Boonesborough, Kentucky would not have entered the Union as the 15th state—and the first west of the Appalachians—on June 1, 1792.

– COURTESY BEINECKE LIBRARY, YALE UNIVERSITY –

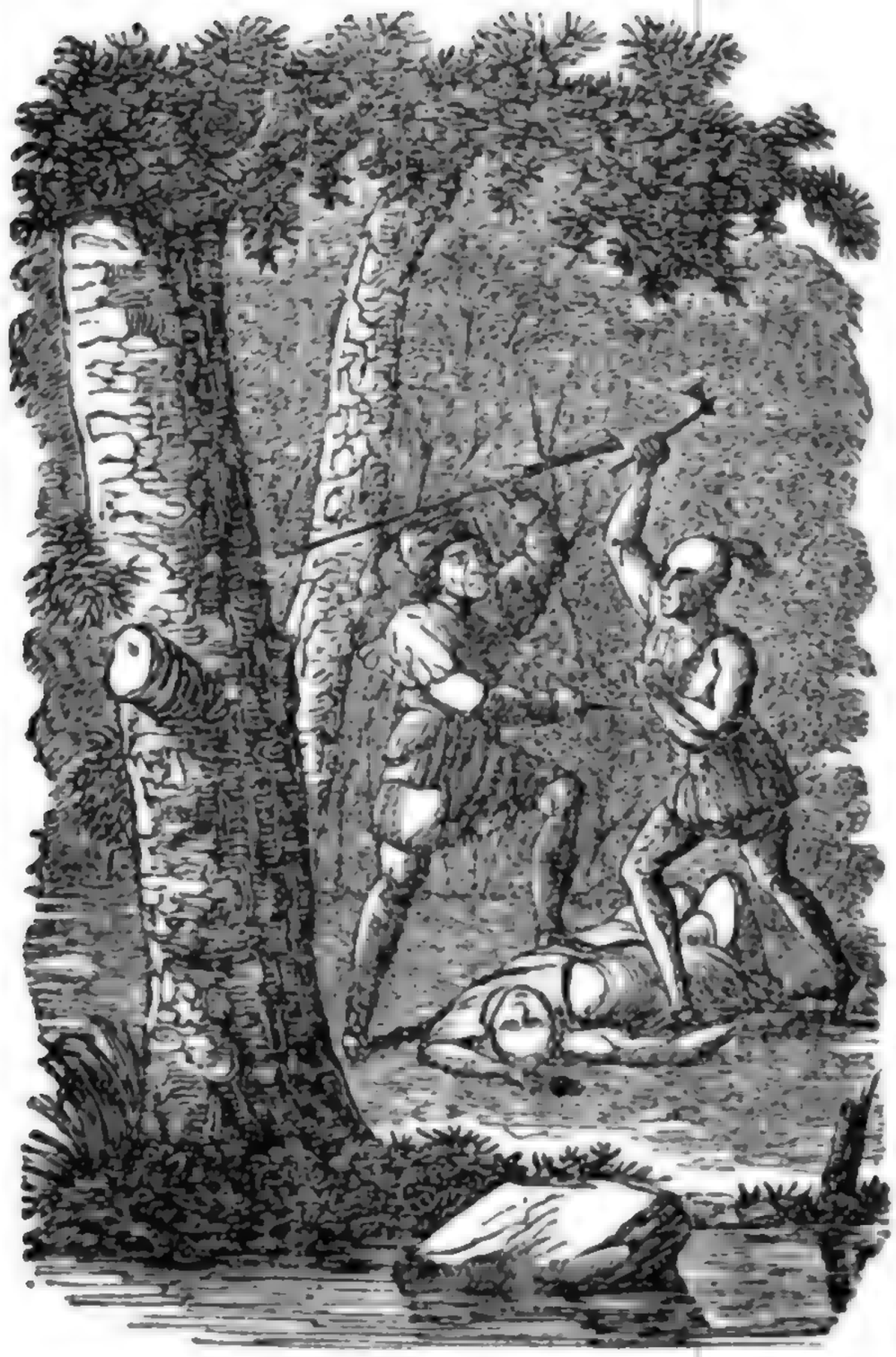
The life of his eldest son is to be but one of a tragic string of blood payments that Daniel Boone will make to open the American West. In time he will come to be heralded as an American Moses leading his people to their Western promised land. His personal travail will be embraced by writers, artists, poets and filmmakers across the generations to create an epic that becomes the grand creation myth for the founding of a pioneer nation. Unlike the aristocratic Founding Fathers to the east, however, Boone remains the hero of the common people.

The Call of the Wild

Born in Berk's County, Pennsylvania, on November 2, 1734, Daniel was the sixth of Squire and Sarah Boone's 11 children. His Quaker grandfather had come to Penn's colony in 1713 in search of religious freedom. But Squire Boone, angered when chastised by the Exeter Meeting of Friends for allowing two of his children to marry outside the church, left the faith and the colony, taking his family to North Carolina and settling his brood on the Yadkin River. Young Daniel, profoundly affected by his father's religious troubles, always professed to be a Christian but never again belonged to any sect or church.

By the time the family moved down the Great Valley of Virginia to the Yadkin, young Boone had already made a reputation in Pennsylvania as an accomplished hunter and marksman. The forest, so frightful to others, had early beckoned to the boy. The freedom he found there was in sharp contrast to the rigid sanctity of the Quakers. The natural rhythms of the land appealed to him far more than the contrived rules of the settlements.

In 1750, with his friend Henry Miller, Boone pursued his first long hunt, following the Roanoke Gap through the Blue Ridge and hunting along the Virginia-North Carolina boundary with great success. Deerskins were a valuable frontier commodity—as good as



Daniel Boone's grit and determination to explore and settle the Western lands of Kentucky were met with great resistance by the local Shawnee and Cherokee tribes. His fighting spirit earned the respect of his countrymen and the Cherokee and Shawnee forces he fought before and during the American Revolution.

– FROM TIMOTHY FLINT'S 1833, 1868 REPRINT "BIOGRAPHICAL MEMOIR OF DANIEL BOONE," COURTESY BEINECKE LIBRARY, YALE UNIVERSITY –

cash—and the terms *buck* and *dollar* quickly became synonymous. Thirty thousand deerskins were exported from North Carolina alone in 1753. The hunts could stretch easily from several months to a year or longer. From 1750 on, Boone was to be a professional hunter.

On August 14, 1756, he married Rebecca Bryan, a tall, dark-eyed, strong-willed beauty 17 years of age. She was by his side for 56 years and bore him ten children—six sons and four daughters. He built them a snug log home on Sugartree Creek in the Yadkin Valley where they lived for ten years, the longest period of time they spent in one place.

Boone, despite his devotion to Rebecca and their growing family, was gone more than he was home. It was but part of the great irony of his life, for he was a family man who was always away from his family. In the same vein he was a frontiersman in flight from civilization who opens the wilderness to civilization. In so doing he would destroy that which he loved most—both his beloved family and his cherished wilderness.

Boone's long hunts took him farther and farther from home—west to the lands of the Cherokees in eastern Tennessee and south to the Florida homeland of the Seminoles. He and his companions were the first to push beyond the Blue Ridge. They borrowed much from their Indian neighbors, most especially a keen sense of nature's rhythms.

The Trail to Kanta-ke

In the spring of 1768, an Irish peddler arrived at the Boone cabin seeking shelter. It was old John Findley, who 13 years earlier had regaled young Boone during Braddock's march with tales of the fabled Kanta-ke. Boone planned a long hunt with Findley to this American Eden, and enlisted his younger brother, Squire; his brother-in-law, John Stewart; and three neighbors to form a hunting party. On May 1, 1769 they departed in search of the ancient "Athiamiowee," the "path of the armed ones" or Warrior's Path. This mountain pass, cutting Kentucky north to south, had long been a favored route for intertribal warfare between the Shawnees and Cherokees. The pass had been mapped and named by Dr. Thomas Walker in 1750 as Cumberland Gap. Boone would make the path immortal in the annals of America.

They moved slowly, pack animals loaded down with extra rifles, ball and powder, as well as traps, kettles, rations and salt. Boone brought along a copy of Jonathan Swift's *Gulliver's Travels* to read to his companions by the evening fire. On June 7, 1769, Boone stood atop Pilot's Knob and for the first time viewed his fabled "Kanta-Ke." It was all he had dreamed of and more.

For six months they hunted and trapped, the only limit on their animal harvest being the inability of the camp keepers to dress and pack the deerskins. But others also claimed these rich hunting grounds, and on December 22, Boone's party was surprised by Shawnees. The warriors confiscated all their goods and hides, but let the hunters go free with a solemn warning. "Now brothers go home and stay there," declared the Shawnee leader called Captain Will. "Don't come here anymore, for this is the Indians' hunting ground, and all the animals, skins and furs are ours. And if you are so foolish as to venture here again, you may be sure the wasps and yellow-jackets will sting you severely."

Daniel and Ned Boone, Stewart and Neeley continue to hunt and trap for another month. When Stewart failed to return to camp, Boone searched for his brother-in-law but found no trace, save the remains of a campfire and initials carved in a tree. Alexander Neeley quickly departed for home, but the Boone brothers continued the hunt for three more months. Finally, low on powder and shot, Squire returned with the hides and furs to North Carolina in May 1770, leaving Daniel alone in the Kentucky wilderness. In this time Boone explored his "promised land," making a mental map of every rich meadow, salt lick and mountain pass. These are some of the best days of his life. He later told a friend that he "had three dogs that kept his camp while he was hunting, and at night he would often lie by his fire and sing every song he could think of, while the dogs would sit around him, and give as much attention as if they understood every word he was saying."

The brothers rendezvoused on July 27 and continued to hunt and trap until the

The Cherokee-Shawnee Indian raiding party's kidnapping of Daniel Boone's daughter, Jemima, and Col. Richard Callaway's daughters, Elizabeth and Frances, as they were out canoeing on the Kentucky River near Boonesborough on July 14, 1776, is timelessly illustrated in Carl Wimer's 1853 *The Abduction of Boone's Daughter.*

spring of 1771, when they finally headed home. In Powell's Valley, not far to the southeast of Cumberland Gap, they were surprised by Cherokee bandits and robbed of all they had. Two years of hunting gained Daniel nothing, save a burning obsession for Kentucky. Finally reunited with Rebecca and the children in May 1771, he talked of nothing but this new land and all the promise it held—for a man, for his family, for his nation.

Call of the West

Kentucky was also causing excitement among the land jobbers and capitalists on the eastern seaboard. Their surveyors were soon hazarding the perilous Ohio River route to mark out parcels of land in Kentucky for future development. George Washington had his surveying parties mark off ten thousand acres for him, despite the Crown's prohibition of settlement beyond the Appalachians. Even Lord John Dunmore, the Royal Governor of Virginia, hired land agents to mark his claims in this Western country. Benjamin Franklin also employed a land agent to look after his interests in the region. He agreed with Washington that any man who missed the "present opportunity of hunting out good lands will never regain it." The future of America is to be in the West.

Boone, who did not keep company with Dr. Franklin or Colonel Washington, had his own vision for what this new land could become. It was a simpler vision, built around family and community, as well as the eternal quest for a better life. In the summer of 1773, he determined to bring his dream to fruition, taking Rebecca, their first eight children (two more would be born in Kentucky) and five other Yadkin Valley families with him to make a new home in Kentucky.

Driving their cattle and hogs before them, Boone's party of 40 reached Powell's Valley in early October. Boone's 16-year-old son, James, along with five others, trailed the main party, bringing up additional cattle and packhorses. On October 10, just three miles from Boone's column, they were ambushed by Delaware, Shawnee and Cherokee warriors. A slave named Adam escaped into the forest but turned to witness the horrible torture of James Boone and his companions by the Cherokee renegade Big Jim and his fellow warriors. Boone's party retreated eastward, with Daniel and Rebecca settling their family on the Clinch River in a cabin offered by a friend. It was to be a dark winter.

The massacre caused a sensation. Lord Dunmore demanded that the Indian villains be given up to colonial authorities, assuring the Cherokee chiefs that he had done all in his power to prevent encroachment upon their lands. He failed to mention, of course, his own investments in Kentucky survey parties. Men on the frontier took more direct action, and within months the Indians had a long list of white atrocities against their people to lament. The Royal Governor, however, faced more serious problems at home with colonial radicals and so decided that an Indian war might be just the thing to open up the Western lands he had invested in, while diverting attention from the political crisis caused by his dissolving of

Karl Bodmer's 1852 lithograph *Deliverance of the Daughters of D. Boone and Callaway* dramatically captures Daniel Boone and his search party's July 17, 1776 rescue of his daughter, Jemima, and Col. Richard Callaway's daughters, Elizabeth and Frances. James Fenimore Cooper dramatized the story in his 1826 novel, *The Last of the Mohicans.*

– COURTESY PAUL A. HUTTON COLLECTION –

the House of Burgesses. In April he declared war on the Shawnees and their allies. In what came to be known as Lord Dunmore's War, Boone distinguished himself, winning promotion to captain in the militia.

The brief war, despite inconclusive results, inspired Judge Richard Henderson on a bold scheme to purchase Kentucky lands from the Cherokees and form a 14th colony on the frontier. Although such a purchase was illegal under both Crown and colonial law, Henderson called for a council with Cherokee chiefs at Sycamore Shoals on the south side of Tennessee's Watagua River. Henderson hired Boone to arrange these treaty negotiations in March 1775. For 10,000 pounds sterling worth of trade goods, the Cherokee chiefs signed away 20 million acres of Kentucky. Old Oconostota, the leading Cherokee negotiator, knew full well that his people had no claim to this land. "Brother," he told Boone, "we have given you a fine land, but I believe you will have much trouble in settling it."

Henderson put Boone in command of 30 men with orders to hack out a road along the ancient Warrior's Path to the Kentucky River, some 112 miles distant. There Boone erected a fort to protect the rent-paying settlers who Henderson hoped would flock through the Cumberland Gap and up the Wilderness Road. While hacking out this path, a grim discovery was made by one of Boone's axmen. In the hollow of a sycamore tree a skeleton was discovered with a powder horn marked with the initials "J.S." Boone recognized the horn as belonging to his missing brother-in-law John Stewart.

Boonesborough

On April 1, 1775, Boone and his men began construction of Fort Boonesborough near a salt lick some 60 yards south of the Kentucky River. The northern Indians attacked the work parties, killing four and wounding another, and the fort was only saved by the timely arrival of Henderson with reinforcements. The new fort was saved, but not Henderson's Transylvania Company, for the revolutionary governments of Virginia and North Carolina declared the land sale invalid. Henderson was paid off by his political friends back east, but all of Boone's land claims were invalidated. Despite this he and his men still supported the revolutionary cause. Boonesborough now stood as the western-most outpost of liberty.

Henry Hamilton, the British commander in Detroit, offered his Indian allies bounties on American scalps. "Hamilton the Hair Buyer," as he was known on the frontier, sent Simon Girty to incite the Shawnees to attack Boonesborough and the other Kentucky settlements. The natives needed little encouragement, and raiding parties soon crossed the Ohio River in search of American scalps.

The legend of Daniel Boone as one of America's bravest founding fathers and Western trailblazers grew exponentially in the decades following his death. In 1887, Howard Pyle illustrated Boone defending Boonesborough during British-backed Shawnee Chief Blackfish's famous September 1777 siege of the Kentucky settlement.

Fellow Western frontiersman, scout, soldier and future Ohio Territory adventurer Simon Kenton famously saved a wounded Daniel Boone after an April 1777 Indian attack on Boonesborough.

– ILLUSTRATION FROM "HARPER'S MONTHLY," FEBRUARY 1864 –

The embattled pioneers sought help from Virginia's rebel government, but officials there were consumed with plans to repel a British invasion along their coastline and paid little heed to the pleas from the newly created Kentucky County. Young George Rogers Clark was appointed major in command of the Kentucky militia and sent west with a little powder and lead, but no men. Clark mustered his militia on March 5, 1777, with John Todd, James Harrod, Benjamin Logan and Daniel Boone as his captains. They have but 121 men to protect the 280 souls gathered at Harrodsburg, Logan's Station and Boonesborough.

In the same month as the adoption of the Declaration of Independence far to the east in Philadelphia, Boone's daughter Jemima and two friends, Fanny and Betsy Callaway, were suddenly snatched by Indian raiders while canoeing on the Kentucky River. The kidnapping occurred not a hundred yards from the fort, and the alarm was quickly sounded. Boone hurriedly pursued with eight men, relentlessly following the Indian trail for three days. The girls marked their trail with bits of cloth and used every ruse to slow their captors until finally, on the evening of July 16, Boone's men rushed the camp. Three Indians were killed, including the son of Shawnee war chief Blackfish, and the girls were rescued unharmed. It is a tale often retold around pioneer campfires and in time enshrined in American literature as the basis for James Fenimore Cooper's *The Last of the Mohicans*.

Siege of Boonesborough

Blackfish's Shawnees retaliated, taking a heavy toll on the three Kentucky outposts—butchering cattle, destroying crops and holding the settlers as virtual captives inside their fragile stockades. On April 24, 1777, the Shawnees ambushed several men outside the fort and Boone, rushing to their rescue, went down with a shattered ankle. He was saved by Simon Kenton, a young Virginia giant with a mysterious past, who hoisted Boone over his shoulder and made for the fort gate amidst a hail of musket balls. Confined to his cabin for six weeks, Boone would always limp from the wound.

By the time Blackfish lifted his siege late that summer, the settlers were near starvation. Their crops destroyed, they were desperate for salt to preserve the meat that was now their only food. In January 1778, Boone led 30 men to the lower Blue Licks to boil salt for the pioneers. While hunting for his men Boone was captured and taken before Blackfish, who commanded 120 warriors. Boone wisely negotiated the surrender of the salt party in exchange for their lives and he and his men were soon trudging toward the Ohio River.

Blackfish was true to his word that no harm would come to Boone's men, but the promise did not extend to the man who killed his son. A vote was held among the warriors over his fate, with Boone allowed to make a final argument before the Shawnees. The vote was 59 for death and 61 for life, but to satisfy the losing faction, Boone was forced to run the gauntlet between the warriors. Passing virtually unscathed through them, his courage so impressed them all that he was promptly adopted into the tribe to replace Blackfish's son and given the name Big Turtle.

The prisoners were taken north to Old Chillicothe on the Little Miami River and dispersed among the warriors. Several were taken to Detroit to be sold to the British. In Detroit Boone was interviewed by Colonel Hamilton, who took a liking to him and attempted to ransom him from the Shawnees. Blackfish having none of this, took his new son back with him to the Little Miami where Boone lived as a Shawnee for five months.

"I was adopted," Boone later recalled, "according to their custom, into a family, where I became a son, and had a great deal of affection for my new parents, brothers, sisters, and friends."

In early June 1778, Boone learned that Blackfish planned to lead 400 warriors south to attack Boonesborough. Boone promptly made his escape and, despite his bad ankle,

In March 1775, a month before hostilities between the British and American Colonists began in Concord and Boston, Daniel Boone led a road-building party of his family members and pioneers through the Cumberland Gap to build the community of Boonesborough along the banks of the Kentucky River.

outdistanced his Shawnee pursuers in a mad dash to the Kentucky River. He covered 160 miles in four days, reaching the fort on June 20. There he found many of the disheartened settlers departed, including Rebecca and all his children, save Jemima. Several of those remaining at the fort viewed him with suspicion, for reports had reached Boonesborough that he, like the renegade Girty, had gone over to the Indians.

On the morning of September 7, 1778, Blackfish appeared before Boonesborough with 400 warriors, as well as a company of Canadian militia sent from Detroit by Hamilton. Boone had but 60 men and boys to defend the dozen women and 20 children huddled inside the stockade. A parley was held, and Blackfish presented Boone with a wampum belt and a letter from Hamilton offering safe conduct to Detroit for the settlers if they will surrender. Otherwise, no quarter was to be given. Boone's answer was that his people will fight.

For nine days and nights the battle raged. The Shawnees boldly assaulted the fort with burning torches and flaming arrows, but the little band of defenders held firm. It was as desperate a defense as any in American history, and finally on September 18. the warriors, suffering nearly 40 dead and many more wounded, withdrew. Inside the fort two were dead and four more wounded, including Squire and Daniel Boone. The tiny outpost of the Revolution stood, helping to secure the West for the new republic.

University of New Mexico Distinguished Professor of History **Paul Andrew Hutton** is the author or editor of a dozen books, including the award-winning *Phil Sheridan and His Army* and *The Apache Wars*. He is currently writing a history of the American frontier movement, *The Undiscovered Country*, to be published by Dutton/Random House.

Daniel Boone's exploits as an Appalachian woodlands explorer, adventurer, hunter and tracker were legendary in his lifetime.

– ILLUSTRATION BY JAMES DAUGHERTY FROM STEWART EDWARD WHITE'S "DANIEL BOONE, WILDERNESS SCOUT," COURTESY STUART ROSEBROOK COLLECTION –

Chester Harding's portrait of Daniel Boone (below) was made in June 1820, when the great American was 84 years old and residing at the Missouri home of his daughter Jemima Boone Callaway. It is the only painting made of Boone during his lifetime.

– COURTESY SMITHSONIAN'S NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY –

BY JEROME A. GREENE

THE TRAGEDY OF

IN JANUARY 1879, THE NORTHERN CHEYENNE BREAKOUT FROM FORT ROBINSON ENDS IN A BLOODY ONE-SIDED VICTORY FOR THE ARMY.

ANTELOPE CREEK

Following the Great Sioux War of 1876-77 on the Northern Plains, the various bands of Lakota Indians yielded at agencies in Dakota Territory and Nebraska or sought refuge in Canada. In May 1877, the Northern Cheyennes, who had previously surrendered at Camp Robinson, Nebraska, were escorted by Army troops to join their southern kinsmen at the Darlington Agency in the Indian Territory in present Oklahoma. They had lived on the Northern Plains for decades, and the sudden exile of 937 of them to this foreign environment affected them profoundly. With scant food, over the next year the people suffered starvation and homesickness amid humid, disease-prone conditions. The winter of 1877-78 proved especially brutal for them, and dozens perished.

On the night of September 7, 1878, some 300 Northern Cheyennes, led by Chiefs Little Wolf and Dull Knife broke away and headed north from Darlington in a gambit to reach Montana. Over the following weeks, soldiers and Indians collided as the Cheyennes wended north through Kansas and into Nebraska. The tribesmen further raged against citizens en route, destroying property and killing settlers. As they plied the land north of the Platte River in Nebraska, the respective followers of Little Wolf and Dull Knife separated, the former heading for the Yellowstone River country in Montana Territory, where they peaceably yielded to troops in the spring of 1879.

Those with Dull Knife fared much worse. In late October 1878, famished and distressed amid increasingly cold conditions, that chief's followers, numbering 149 men, women and children, submitted to a cavalry patrol and proceeded as prisoners to Camp Robinson in northwestern Nebraska, where they occupied a vacant cavalry barrack. After two uncertain months, the government resolved to return them to Darlington, although the people stated their preference to die rather than go back. In early January 1879, to compel their compliance, post commander Capt. Henry W. Wessells, Jr., cut off their provisions, and during the night of January 9, 1879, the desperate people staged a breakout, killing and wounding several soldiers with guns and ammunition they had secreted in the barrack. During their rush, 40 Cheyenne people were killed or wounded, while another 55 were captured.

The garrison of 3rd Cavalry troops responded swiftly, yet many of the tribesmen succeeded in scattering into the hills and getting away. For two weeks, soldiers pursued them west of the post, now redesignated Fort Robinson. Skirmishing occurred along Hat Creek Road, a rough-cut corridor through wooded hills west of the post. Near midnight on January 16, Wessells' command bivouacked 20 miles from the fort. The next morning, as soldiers proceeded beneath a looming bluff, warriors let loose a distant volley, killing Private Amos Barber, then swept in, stripping Barber's body of weapons and ammunition before racing off.

On Sunday, January 19, Captain Wessells' command reached Bluff Station, north of present-day Harrison, Nebraska. Major Andrew W. Evans arrived from Fort Laramie with two companies of the Third Cavalry and took command. On the 20th, Wessells' troops reconnoitered northeast for trails. Evans with his companies searched ridgelines until that afternoon, when his men exchanged shots with warriors ensconced along a distant pinnacle called Castle Rock.

Early on January 21, with two companies and Lakota scout Woman's Dress accompanying, Wessells searched bluffs northeast toward Hat Creek for 10 miles. He related that while "going around the base of the bluff, a corporal [and] a private of my company and myself saw plenty of moccasin tracks. Soon after, more were discovered by Woman's Dress. I started on the trail. We followed out about 3 miles from the bluff and found a dead beef killed by Indians and soon after lost the trail." As night fell, Wessells moved closer to the foot of the bluffs and "almost immediately saw a camp-fire. I went to it and saw…some men of my company [H] who had been sent ahead during the afternoon to look for the Indian trail. They told me that they had discovered the whole thing…."

The Northern Cheyennes, meanwhile, had sustained no significant losses in their brush with Major Evans's soldiers on January 20th. They regained the prairie floor and set out toward the Sioux at Pine Ridge Agency, 60 miles away. There they hoped Lakota friends and relatives would provide them food and shelter, and they might blend with the population. The Indians planned

Frederic Remington's dramatic 1897 painting, *Through the Smoke Sprang the Daring Soldier*, dramatizes Capt. Henry W. Wessells being shot in the head while leading his troopers against Dull Knife's people on January 22, 1879.

– TRUE WEST ARCHIVES –

to navigate the fingered courses of Antelope Creek and other routes trending that way while maintaining sufficient distance from patrolling troops. During the night of January 20-21 they covered eight or nine miles before stopping to rest and build fires for warmth and roasting whatever meat they still carried. Then they moved on. With ammunition low, they wanted no further soldier encounters. Altogether, they were led primarily by Little Finger Nail, whose stature had grown since the breakout. They numbered 32 people—17 warriors and 15 women and children.

Continually fearful of the troops finding them as they crossed the prairie, the Cheyennes sought secluded places where they might evade discovery. When darkness settled, they moved on. Still, they left footprints in the melting snow, evidence of their passing that Wessells' soldiers had detected. Ascending the brim of a low rising grassy escarpment before dawn, they found what they thought would be a safe hiding place. Located some 13 miles northeast of Evans's skirmish site, and eight or nine miles northeast of Bluff Station, the surviving clutch of Dull Knife's people settled into what would seem a natural entrenchment—a large blowout perhaps 35 feet long, a dozen feet wide, and between three and six feet deep.

Northern Cheyenne leaders Little Wolf (left) and Dull Knife, were photographed in 1873 in Washington, D.C. The chiefs and their people fled captivity in the Indian Territory but soon separated. Little Wolf's followers eventually surrendered in Montana, while Dull Knife's faced confinement at Fort Robinson, Nebraska, before breaking out in January 1879.

– WILLIAM HENRY JACKSON, COURTESY SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION, 1873 –

The final Army assault on Dull Knife's Northern Cheyenne followers took place on January 22, 1879.

– MAP BY ROBERT G. PILK –

The refuge offered only modest protection, but occupied high ground. Situated 25 feet above the trifling streambed of Antelope Creek, it enabled the Cheyennes to survey the adjacent plain and upland approaches to the south and west. The people improved the setting by digging with knives to modify rude natural breastworks. At the west side of the pit, a two-foot wide gulch ran down 50 feet to the tributary of Antelope Creek, which provided a meager water source. The stream's webbed complex of rivulets coursed a few miles east to Hat Creek, which in turn headed north.

Cognizant of their precarious circumstances, the people hunkered beneath the lip of their make-do redoubt. They planned to pass the day until darkness enabled them to proceed on their course. Some of them must have realized the site's vulnerabilities. If the troops found them there, they were trapped, yet if they moved on, they were sure to be discovered. In this manner, the balance of Dull Knife's people reconciled themselves to their dilemma atop a gentle bluff overlooking Antelope Creek.

The troops, in fact, were close at hand. Early on January 22, a morning Wessells would recall as "clear and pleasant," the captain's command found the Indians' trail

as it passed through a large prairie dog town. His men proceeded ever closer to the rising ground on the northeast. Arriving from Bluff Station with 2nd Lieutenant Francis H. Hardie that morning, Scout Shangrau brought word that the supply wagons were en route. After advancing a mile or so, Wessells directed Lieutenant Chase to move ahead and to the left of the column, with Shangrau, Woman's Dress and two Company A soldiers as an advance guard.

The troops proceeded in this manner for two miles, at last approaching a slightly timbered and sage-covered bottom fronting the area of the Indians' concealed position atop the bluff. Therein, Little Finger Nail, Roached Hair and the other Northern Cheyenne men had caringly painted their faces, prepared for any exigency.

Captain Henry W. Wessells commanded Fort Robinson during the Northern Cheyennes' confinement there. Wessells' troops surrounded the surviving people at Antelope Creek on January 22, 1879, ending the breakout.

– COURTESY AUTHOR'S COLLECTION –

This illustration from *Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper*, February 15, 1879, shows an artist's interpretation of the Northern Cheyennes' January 9, 1879, breakout from the barrack prison at Fort Robinson.

– COURTESY AUTHOR'S COLLECTION –

The women, children and elderly took shelter as best they could, bracing for discovery and the climax that now appeared inevitable.

Near one o'clock, as the Army scouts came within several hundred yards of the rising ground, shots rang out from the Cheyennes' lofty berth, immediately felling Shangrau's mule. Shangrau and Woman's Dress ran for cover in the bottom growth while the advance guard pulled back. Directly behind, Companies A and E dismounted and returned fire. Wessells ordered Lieutenant Chase to dismount and hold his position. For several moments, Chase's men returned fire toward the Cheyennes' entrenchment, and in the brief exchange Woman's Dress received a gunshot wound to his arm. Private Henry A. Dublois of Company A also fell wounded from his saddle, his horse shot beneath him. To keep the Cheyennes in place, Wessells sent Chase with Company A to take position below and opposite the bluff top while the balance of the soldiers waited expectantly for Lieutenant Baxter, who was to arrive with Company F.

As they paused, Wessells, who maintained a 200-yard distance from the Indians, determined to surround them and attack on foot from several directions. With Companies E and H, he moved north of the entrenchment, directing Captain Lawson to advance with E on his left and secure a location to cover the Indians. Below and some 125 yards southwest of the tribesmen, Chase's Company A completed the encirclement, effectively "hemming them in on all four sides." Appointed troopers thereupon removed most of the company mounts to secure ravines or sheltered areas beyond range of the Indians' guns. Lieutenant Chase meantime dispatched riders on the back trail to hasten forward Baxter and Company F. Wessells presently directed interpreter James Rowland to call out to the Indians that the women and children "would be protected" if they came forward. There was no response.

From these several positions, the soldiers girded for battle, sporadically exchanging shots with the Northern Cheyennes over the next two hours or so, until Baxter and his unit at last arrived, increasing Wessells' immediate force to four understrength companies totaling 100 men. On Wessells' direction, Company F took position below the Indians and across Antelope Creek, while Chase and Company A proceeded "to a point occupied by Capt. Lawson's [E] company and thence down the ravine [that led] in the direction of the Indians' position." Chase's men took cover behind a crest and "prepared to charge the rifle pits occupied by the Indians." Baxter's Company F covered Wessells' and Chase's units during the maneuver. After the companies had realigned to complete the investment, Chase reported to Captain Wessells, who laid out his plan. He explained that he would "advance up the ravine from the position his company [H] then occupied [north of the Cheyennes' entrenchment], and at a given signal the two companies [H and A] would charge the ravine together." In short, the combined force would comprise a semicircle "so as to bring the right and left of the line respectively toward the edge of the steep creek bank," where the Indians were sheltered. A detachment of Company F would

also later move to advance from the east, while the remainder of that unit stayed in the bottom to monitor the west side of the Northern Cheyennes' position.

Prior to opening the attack, Wessells told his command: "We have lost enough men now waiting for these Indians, and we must charge them." Company A men pulled off their overcoats and arctic overshoes to enable them to move more freely. Before the assault could proceed, however, Chase sustained a grievous loss to his unit when Sgt. James Taggart was abruptly killed by a carbine bullet to his neck as Company A took position 50 yards from the Cheyennes' pit. At that, Chase's men suddenly took the direct brunt of the ensuing opening melee. As Chase recalled, "I found my men subject to a flank[,] rear[,] and front fire. I determined not to wait for the arrival of H Company, but ordered an immediate advance on the rifle pits of the Indians. We came under their fire at a point about 12 yds distant [and east] from [the east side of] the pits. The Indians raised from the pits as my men…[reached] the crest and volleys were simultaneously exchanged. Farrier [George] Brown of my company was killed here."

Lieutenant Chase described the continuing engagement: "The Com-pany then advanced to within about 5 yards of the pit and fired two or three volleys into it. Capt. Wessells [,] seeing 'A' Company in action [,] moved at double time and within 5 or ten minutes had surrounded the pit with his company and a few men from the other companies. In the meantime Pvt. [George E.] Nelson of my company was [also] killed. From this time [forward] I did not see an Indian take aim except the one who [subsequently] wounded Capt. Wessells with a revolver. The line fought in this position for nearly three-quarters of an hour during which time Captain Wessells twice ordered the firing to cease and called to the Indians to surrender and come out. The answer in both cases were shots from the Indians. The firing eventually ceased. I formed my company in line [and] directed that the bodies of the Indians should be taken from the pit. Upon removal it was ascertained that 17 bucks were dead and one buck wounded. There were eight women and children alive and seven women and children dead."

Chase remembered certain hesitation among the troops in finally surmounting the crown of the Indians' defenses, as well as specifics about the wounding of Captain Wessells: "[During the assault] we found it difficult to force the men onto the crest of the pit occupied by the Indians.

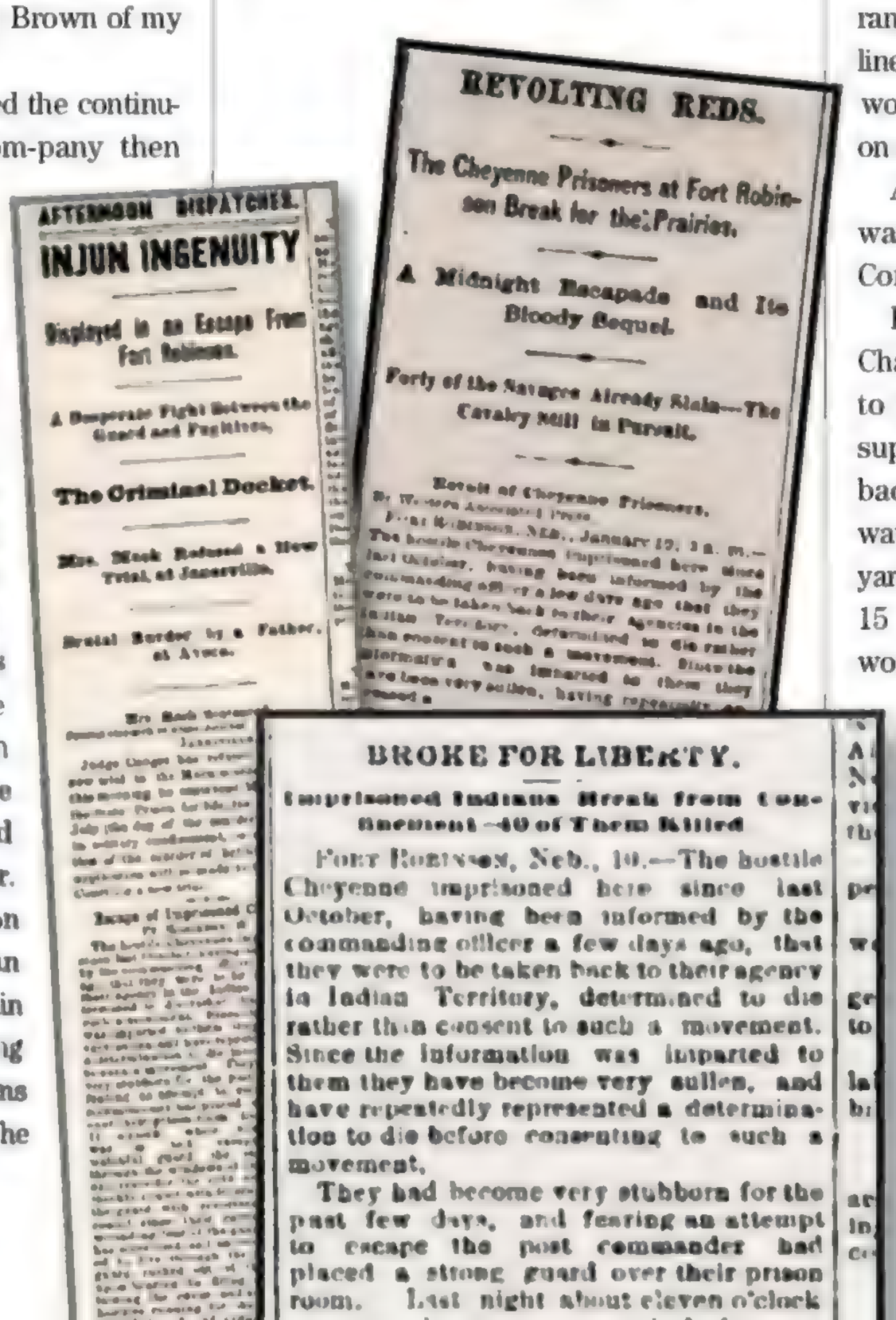
Brigadier General George Crook commanded the Department of the Platte from Omaha; the Northern Cheyennes' breakout from Fort Robinson happened under his administrative domain.

– COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS –

I called around me men [from Company A] whom I thought I could trust. Capt. Wessells did the same in his company [H]. Capt. Wessells and I walked side by side with cocked pistols[,] determined to lead the few men around us up to the very edge of the pit. As we advanced I saw an Indian's head and his hand with a pistol in it raised above the other Indians, but not above the level of the crest. Captain Wessells and I both fired. The Indian fired at the same time, the bullet taking effect in Capt. Wessells[']' head. Capt. Wessells staggered. I caught him to prevent his falling, ran back with him about 15 yards to where I found a place out of the range of fire. I then went back to the skirmish line [and] told the men Capt. Wessells was wounded and called for a general advance on all sides."

Another felled by a bullet in the assault was First Sergeant Edward Ambrose, of Company E, who survived.

Following the wounding of Wessells, as Chase reported, "the men now rushed right to the very edge of the pit and fired, I suppose, 200 shots into it, and again fell back some six or eight yards. The line wavered backward and forward within 10 yards of this Indian rifle pit for some 10 or 15 minutes after Capt. Wessells was wounded." It was quickly apparent that the



AFTERNOON DISPATCHES.

INJUN INGENUITY

Displayed in an Escape from Fort Robinson.

A Desperate Fight Between the Guard and Fugitives.

The Criminal Docket.

Mrs. Mack Refused a New Trial at Janesville.

Brutal Murder by a Father, at Avoca.

REVOLTING REDS.

The Cheyenne Prisoners at Fort Robinson Break for the Prairies.

A Midnight Escapade and Its Bloody Sequel.

Forty of the Savages Already Slain—The Cavalry Still in Pursuit.

Revolt of Cheyenne Prisoners.

BROKE FOR LIBERTY.

Imprisoned Indians Break from Confinement—40 of Them Killed

Fort Robinson, Neb., 10.—The hostile Cheyenne imprisoned here since last October, having been informed by the commanding officer a few days ago, that they were to be taken back to their agency in Indian Territory, determined to die rather than consent to such a movement. Since the information was imparted to them they have become very sullen, and have repeatedly represented a determination to die before consenting to such a movement.

They had become very stubborn for the past few days, and fearing an attempt to escape the post commander had placed a strong guard over their prison room. Last night about eleven o'clock

National newspapers, including the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, *Quad City Times* (Davenport, Iowa) and *Wisconsin State Journal* (Madison), reported with varying degrees of sympathy and enmity, the Northern Cheyennes' desperate breakout from Fort Robinson.

– COURTESY NEWSPAPERS.COM –

Officers' quarters are in the upper right distance in this view from the southeast of Camp Robinson, and the Cheyenne barrack of 1878–79 can be seen directly below the second and third officer quarters and the faintly visible post flagpole. The White River, which significantly factored in the breakout, appears in the foreground.

– PHOTO BY VICTOR GONDOS JR COURTESY NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION, NO. 70168742 –

fighting was over. When the soldiers closed at last, most of the Indians were dead or immobile from wounds, their shots trailing off as their ammunition played out. At the very end, two warriors rose from the ditch in a forlorn final charge with but an empty revolver and two knives. They were quickly "riddled with bullets and fell dead."

From start to finish, the carnage of Antelope Creek lasted perhaps three hours. The initial shooting between the soldiers and the Northern Cheyennes began at about 1 p.m., with the fighting intensifying after Company F arrived. The standoff ended at about 4 o'clock. "When the fight was over," remembered Shangrau, "the Cheyennes fired their last cartridge." For the people, their defensive pit had become a cauldron of dashed hopes, frustration, and loss. Of the 32 Northern Cheyennes occupying the pit defenses at Antelope Creek, total casualties numbered 18 men, five women and three children killed or died of wounds. Army losses at Antelope Creek totaled four killed and three wounded. When the shooting subsided, Captain Lawson recalled, "I saw a little girl on the opposite side of the pit looking imploringly at us. I instantly gave the order [to] cease firing and[,] leaping in onto the dead bodies[,] took the child by hand and helped her out. I also took hold of a squaw's hand and assisted her in getting up from amongst the dead, and called on the men to assist all those that were wounded and living out of the pit."

The fight at Antelope Creek was over, but not the Army's prosecution of the Northern Cheyennes. The events comprising the breakout were scrutinized in formal proceedings at Fort Robinson that largely absolved that hierarchy. Eventually, the Cheyenne survivors were transferred to the New Red Cloud Indian Agency at Pine Ridge, Dakota Territory. Several faced prosecution for the misdeeds in Kansas, but were later freed and returned to Darlington Agency. Ultimately, the Northern Cheyennes at Pine Ridge were permitted to move to their new reservation in Montana, established in 1884. Because of intermarriages and other reasons, some chose to remain in South Dakota, where their descendants live today.

Editor's Note:

"The Tragedy of Antelope Creek" is an excerpt from Jerome Greene's *January Moon: The Northern Cheyenne Breakout from Fort Robinson, 1878–1879* (University of Oklahoma Press, 2020).

Jerome A. Greene is a retired National Park Service historian, curator and manager. He taught at Haskell Indian Nations University and has served on several editorial boards. His newest book is *All Guns Fired at One Time: Native Views of Wounded Knee, 1890*, published by the South Dakota Historical Society Press.

BY ART BURTON

CHEROKEE BILL

BOLD, BRAZEN BANK-ROBBING BANDIT OF THE INDIAN TERRITORY

Cherokee Bill can be compared to John Dillinger and Pretty Boy Floyd of the 1930s. Like these men, he garnered national press for his exploits; the well-known *New York Times* had a running commentary on his actions and deeds in the Indian Territory. Cherokee Bill was every bit as colorful and outrageous as any criminal on the Western frontier, perhaps even more so. There were a few things about him that made him truly unique for a famous desperado of the purple sage. First and foremost, he was an African American living in the Indian Territory. He was also a Native American, a citizen of the Cherokee Nation as an Indian Freedman from his mother's lineage. Compare Cherokee Bill to Billy the Kid of New Mexico Territory fame. Although both outlaws received national media attention for their crimes while they were living, Billy the Kid was remembered and immortalized in books and films in the 20th century, but this did not occur for Cherokee Bill.

The boldest and most brazen robbery by Cherokee Bill and the Cook gang occurred on Monday morning, July 30, 1894, when the gang robbed the Lincoln County Bank in Chandler, Oklahoma Territory. Chandler was the county seat of Lincoln County; a few years later, the famous Dodge City, Kansas, lawman Bill Tilghman would become sheriff of Lincoln County.

At about ten o'clock on that July morning, five heavily armed cowboys rode into town from the northeast, coming down Manvel Avenue to 7th Street, where they turned and went to the alley. They rode behind Fletcher's Hardware Store and stopped at the rear of the Lincoln County Bank, where they dismounted….

The *Guthrie Daily Leader* earlier on August 1, 1894, carried a front-page story that said:

DASTARDLY DEED OF DEMONS.
THE LINCOLN COUNTY BANK AT CHANDLER LOOTED.
A CITIZEN RUTHLESSLY SLAIN.
Sheriff Parker and Posse Give Chase. A Terrific Battle and as Outlaw Brought Town – Now Safe Behind the Bars. A Mere Boy is He but the Others are Old Timers – Latest Job of the Notorious Cook Gang.

Special to the *Leader*.

Chandler, Ok., July 31. – The quiet and serenity of this little city was rudely disturbed yesterday morning by a bold bank robbery. About 9 o'clock, five horsemen dressed as typical cowboys and heavily armed, rode into town from the north along the street east of the court house, and turning down the alley back of Fletcher's hardware store, proceeded to the rear of the Lincoln County Bank where they dismounted.

One of the men held the horses while two entered the building from the rear and one from the front entrance simultaneously, while another remained on the guard on the outside.

Mr. Harvey Kee, president of the bank, was at the teller's window, when one of the men stepped up and presenting a Winchester said, "Say, you d-- s--- of a b---, shell out your cash, and be d---d quick about it too." At the same time, noticing O. B. Kee, the cashier, at the books, he ordered his pal to attend to him.

The third bandit then went to a room in back of bank building where F.B. Hoyt lay very sick, and compelled him to get up to open the safe. Hoyt came in at the point of a Winchester and made an effort to open the safe but was so nervous that he did not succeed, although being roundly cursed for his delay and having a Winchester snapped in his face once or twice.

About this time, shooting commenced on the outside which so excited the bandits on the inside that they grabbed up what money they could find on the top of the counter, (about $300) and skipped out. They could have got two thousand dollars by pulling out the tellers draw just below. As they were leaving, one of the fellows jerked off O. B. Kee's watch and put it into his pocket.

Cherokee Bill, the most famous outlaw of the Indian Territory, stood for his portrait for a Fort Smith newspaper just before his execution on March 17, 1896. His execution made newspaper headlines across the country, including the March 18, 1896, *Leavenworth Times* (see clipping below).

– PHOTO OF CHEROKEE BILL COURTESY TRUE WEST ARCHIVES/ NEWSCLIPPING COURTESY NEWSPAPERS.COM –

On the opposite corner from the Lincoln County Bank, J. B. Mitchell has been conducting a barber shop. He was sitting out in front of his shop, and noticing the movements of the bandits called out "the Dalton gang in town," and got up and started to go into his shop, when the fellow in front of the bank, called to him to "shut up and sit down." He did not heed the admonition however, and started to go into his shop, when the bandit shot killing him instantly, the bullet entering on his right side, between the fourth and fifth ribs and piercing his body.

By this time there was a general fusillade between bandits and citizens, fully 100 shots being fired. As the robbers were mounting to ride off, N. W. Warren, a deputy U.S. marshal killed one of their horses, (since ascertained to be Bill Cook's) but the owner got up behind one of the others and all rode off in the same direction from whence they came – the Creek country.

Sheriff Parker immediately organized a posse and started in pursuit. At the edge of town another one of their horses was killed. They overtook an old German in a cart, took his horse out of the cart and rode on. They also made old man Pollard dismount and appropriated his horse also. The sheriff and posse came up on them near Chuck-a-hoe on section 36, 15-4, and a hundred or more shots were fired. One of the bandits were

CHEROKEE BILL HANGED.

The Notorious Indian Territory Desperado Pays the Extreme Penalty.

FORT SMITH, Ark., March 17.— Thousands of people are here from the Indian territory to witness the hanging of the notorious outlaw, "Cherokee Bill," which occurred in the jail yard at 2 o'clock p. m., having been delayed to that hour that his sister might reach here from her home in the territory. Only 100 persons were allowed to be present. "Cherokee Bill" met death without a frown. He stated that he had nothing to fear hereafter for what he had been forced to do on earth, and he then said he was glad he had reached the end of

shot and taken prisoner. The others scattered through the woods and were lost track of. The sheriff and posse feeling that they had achieved enough glory for one day returned home. The prisoner captured is a young boy of the typical cowboy order, aged about 21 years. He gives his name as Elmer Lucas. He is shot through the hips the ball going through his body, making a painful and ugly, but not seriously fatal wound. He gives the names of the band of outlaws: Bill Cook, Tom Cook, Jack Starr or Cherokee Bill (a Cherokee Indian) and the prisoner. He says they are known as the Cook gang and that he joined them at the...ranch in the Creek nation only last Monday.

J. B. Stewart , the liveryman says that he remembers that the horse that was killed, was put up at his stable last Friday. It is evident that they were posted, because they knew exactly how to get into the rear of the Lincoln county bank. One of the gang was seen in the rear of Hoffman, Charles & Conklin's bank about an hour before the hold-up. A number remember the fellows loafing around last night, (Sunday) and this morning one of them purchased two or three bottles of whiskey at Reeve's saloon.

Mr. Mitchell, the gentleman shot, was a quiet, unoffensive citizen aged fifty-three years. He leaves a wife and two daughters in straightened circumstances. The people are very much worked up over the affair and are in favor of meting out summary justice to all the gang should they be captured, but as they made directly for their haunts in the Creek country, and are now safely hiding in the canyons and caves of that section there is little hope of capturing them.

Cowboy outlaw Crawford Goldsby, aka Cherokee Bill, was very dedicated and loyal to his mother, Mrs. Ellen Lynch, who was a citizen of the Cherokee Nation. Goldsby's father was a member of Troop H, 10th Cavalry Regiment, a famous Buffalo Soldiers unit. The future outlaw was born at Fort Concho, Texas, on February 8, 1876.

– COURTESY AUTHOR'S COLLECTION –

On November 16, 1894, Deputy U.S. Marshals Heck Thomas (above) and Heck Bruner and their posse cornered Bill, Sam McWilliams and Texas Jack at their hideout on the Cherokee Nation but failed to capture them in a violent shootout.

– TRUE WEST ARCHIVES –

Cherokee Bill was one of the two outlaws out in front of the bank. When J.B. Mitchell started screaming about the bank being held up, Cherokee Bill called to him to shut up. When Mitchell tried to stand up from his chair, Cherokee Bill leveled his Winchester rifle and shot the barber at a distance of about 200 yards. Mitchell staggered a few feet and fell to the sidewalk near the corner of the barber shop. Mitchell died within minutes of being shot; he was 53 years old and left a wife and two young children.

When the outlaws came out of the bank, they fired their guns wildly in all directions. N.W. Warren, a county deputy sheriff, shot Bill Cook's horse, and then Cook mounted up behind one of his gang. The gang was vigorously pursued by a posse put together by Sheriff Claude Parker, and a gunfight took place in some timber east of town. The August 3, 1894, *Edmond Sun Democrat* said the gun battle lasted for 15 minutes and over two hundred shots were exchanged. One of the gang, Elmer Lucas, was wounded and captured by the posse. The rest of the gang was able to escape into the hills. Lucas was taken back to Chandler, but due to anger over the death of Mitchell and calls for a lynching, he was transported to the federal jail at Guthrie, capital of the Oklahoma Territory. While he was in custody, Lucas named the other members of the gang. According to him they were Cherokee Bill, Bill Cook, Henry Munson, Jack Starr, Tulsa Jack and Lon Gordon. Under interrogation, Lucas also confessed to his involvement in the train robbery at Red Rock. Later, he was transferred to the federal jail at Fort Smith, Arkansas, where he was indicted for the train robbery and recovered from his wounds.

On July 31, Deputy U.S. Marshal Scott Huffvine, an Indian resident of Kellyville, got information that the Cook gang was going to meet on Polecat Creek in the Creek Nation. To be able to locate the gang, Huffvine got the most famous tracker in the Indian Territory to assist him. Tiger

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Cherokee lawman Eli Hickman "Heck" Bruner (left) was one of many lauded man trackers who failed to capture or kill Cherokee Bill. Before the hangman dropped the Indian outlaw to his death, Bruner had one last chance in the cellblock shootout after Bill broke out from his cell and killed guard Lawrence Keating.

– COURTESY AUTHOR'S COLLECTION –

In the early evening of July 26, 1895, Fort Smith federal jail turnkey Campbell Eoff and guard Lawrence Keating (left) were locking jail cells on Murderer's Row when Cherokee Bill, in an escape plan coordinated with fellow death row inmates, overwhelmed Keating and killed him with a contraband .38.

After his capture on Ike Rogers' farm outside Nowata, Indian Territory, on January 30, 1895, Cherokee Bill was taken by wagon to Nowata, where he was chained in a boxcar for transport to Fort Smith, Arkansas. On a stop en route in Wagoner on the Creek Nation, Bill was taken off the train, where he famously posed with his captors.

– E.D. MACFEE, COURTESY USMS COLLECTIONS –

An artist's rendering of notorious outlaw Cherokee Bill's final moments before his execution accompanied sensational news reports of his demise.

– COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS –

Judge Isaac Parker (above) sentenced Cherokee Bill to hang twice: First, on April 13, 1895, for the murder of Lenapah, Cherokee Nation, citizen Ernest Melton, and second, on September 10, 1895, for the killing of federal guard Lawrence Keating.

Continued from page 36

Jack, an Euchee Indian, a tribe closely aligned with the Creek Indians, had worked with quite a few deputy U.S. marshals, including Heck Thomas, in tracking down desperadoes. Tiger Jack picked up the trail of the gang, but they were too late, and the gang got away.

On August 9, Deputy U.S. Marshals Jesse Allen and Thompson Pickett—who were also Euchee Indians and members of the Creek Lighthorse Police—located the Cook gang with the aid of an Indian posse. Allen and Pickett had been hunting the Cook gang since the Red Fork robbery. The gang had been hiding out 14 miles west of Sapulpa, Creek Nation, in the home of Bill Province, the uncle of Henry Munson. It was 8 a.m. and the gang was outside the home washing up when the posse, about a dozen strong, came in with guns blazing. A desperate gun battle ensued resulting in about 40 shots fired between the parties. Henry Munson was killed; Lon Gordon was severely wounded; Curtis Dayson was captured; and one Indian policeman was wounded. Cherokee Bill, Bill Cook, Thurman Baldwin and Buck Snyder were able to escape a close call. Gordon later died from injuries—gunshots to the head and lungs—after being taken to Sapulpa.

Cherokee Bill was said to have had irresistible charm and a sweetheart in nearly every section of the territory. Cherokee Bill was often protected from harm by loyal friends and a violent reputation. Lawmen who pursued him, hearing of his deadly rifle accuracy and fast six-shooter action, kept a safe distance and many times avoided engaging him in battle. Because he was on good terms with Cherokees, Creeks and Seminoles, he moved easily through their villages and lands, something his pursuers could not do.

From the time Cherokee Bill joined the Cook brothers, he acted as though he was destined to die in two years and wanted to kill as many men as he could. Some of the fugitives who allied themselves to the Cook Gang that summer of 1894 were killed in desperate fights with deputy U.S. marshals; others were captured, convicted and given penitentiary sentences.

EPILOGUE

Cherokee Bill was executed for crimes committed in the Indian Territory at the federal jail at Fort Smith, Arkansas, on March 17, 1896.

Cherokee Bill's family took his body to Fort Gibson where a wake and funeral were held in the old military commissary building. He was buried in the Cherokee National Cemetery in Fort Gibson, later named the Citizens Cemetery of Fort Gibson, not far from companions Jim French and the Verdigris Kid. Some of the most important Cherokee citizens in Indian Territory history are buried in this cemetery, along with Cherokee Bill, his mother and siblings. In the 1990s, a headstone was placed on their gravesite with incorrect dates for the children. It listed Cherokee Bill as the youngest.

The saga of Cherokee Bill comes to a close, but the outlaw legend from eastern Oklahoma lives on. He was like a shooting star that shines real bright for a short period but then quickly flames out. If Jesse James, Butch Cassidy, Billy the Kid and the Daltons can be celebrated as American outlaws, there is no reason we cannot also celebrate the dashing firebrand Crawford Goldsby known as "Cherokee Bill." What is known is that Cherokee Bill's outlaw legacy remains forever in the annals of frontier Oklahoma history.

Art T. Burton, a retired college history professor, has written four critically acclaimed books on the American Western frontier. He is a member of Western Writers of America and the Chicago Westerners Corral. Burton was made an honorary Territorial Marshal by Oklahoma Governor David Walters.

Editor's Note: "Cherokee Bill: Bold, Brazen Bank-Robbing Bandit of the Indian Territory" is excerpted from Art Burton's *Cherokee Bill: Black Cowboy-Indian Outlaw* (Eakin Press, 2020).

Cherokee Bill and the Cook Gang roamed wide and far across the Oklahoma and Indian territories from 1893–95, leaving bloodshed and terror in their wake, including the deadly robbery of the Lincoln County Bank in Chandler, Oklahoma Territory, on July 30, 1894.

TRUE WEST EXCLUSIVE

CLASSIC GUNFIGHTS

¿QUIEN ES?

BILLY THE KID VS PAT GARRETT

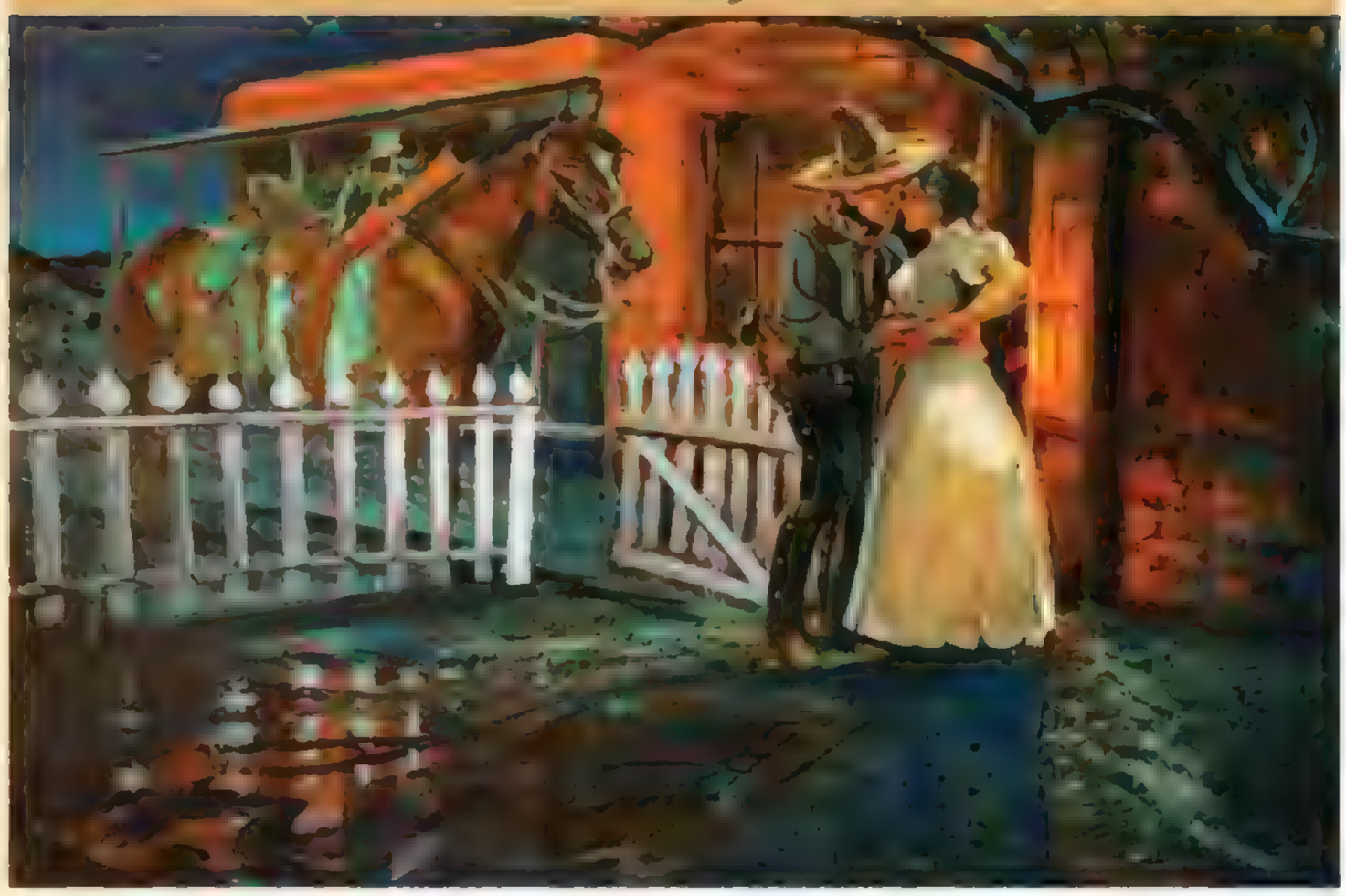
FOR HER HE TOOK A BULLET IN THE HEART.

"He wore a broad-brimmed hat, a dark vest and pants, and was in his shirt sleeves."
—Pat Garrett

BY BOB BOZE BELL

Based on the research of Fred Nolan, Robert G. McCubbin, John Sinclair, Nora and Walter Henn, Lynda Sánchez, Paul Andrew Hutton, Leon Metz, Robert Utley, Mark Lee Gardner, Mark Boardman, James Mills, Bob Hart, Bob Barron, Paul Northrop, Frank Mangan, Colleen Salazar, Steve Sederwall, Gary Cozzens, Chuck Usmar, Lon Goodloe, Shelly Buffalo Calf, Linda Pardo, Drew Gomber, Joe Bowlin, Mike Pitel, Cleis and Jerry Jordan, Richard Rudisill, Arthur Olivas, Chuck Sturm, Howard Bryan, Chuck Parsons, Don Lavash, Dave Powell, Buckeye Blake, Thom Ross, Jerry Weddle, Steve Havill, Shamie Maxwell, Donald McAlavy and Stuart Rosebrook

JULY 14, 1881



A full moon lights up the Cottonwood trees along the Pecos River as a dark figure jumps over a fence at the end of the peach orchid and slips into the side yard of a long, low adobe. Once inside, he goes straight to her bedroom at the southeast corner. Opening the door just a crack, he sees the love of his life. He has risked everything for her, and she is as beautiful as he has remembered. As he quietly slips inside and starts to undress, he suddenly senses something moving out the window, on the parade ground. He freezes and instinctively ducks down to the floor and inches forward to the front window. As he carefully peers out, he spies two strangers crouched and conversing at the front gate. Staying low, he moves like a cat back across the room and out into the darkened hallway. He quietly slips into the corner bedroom across the hall.

¿"Quien es? ¿Quien es, Pete"? (Who is it? Who is it, Pete?)

There is no answer, but he senses someone besides Pete is also in the room. One more time he whispers, *¿"Quien es"?*

There is a loud explosion, and it's the last thing he remembers before the darkness takes him.

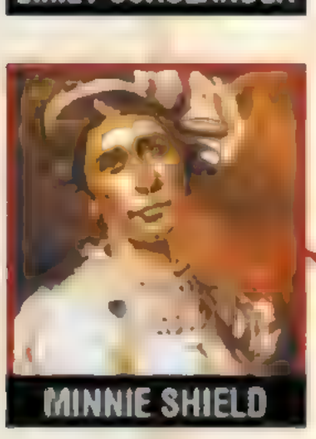
Stocking Feet Don't Lie

Essentially, Sheriff Pat Garrett caught Billy the Kid with his pants down in a darkened bedroom. After the shooting, all the principals agreed on one thing: an explanation needed to be fashioned that would get Billy out of the house, but it needed to include him being in his stocking feet. Why they didn't just lie about this part as well is kind of mystifying, but it was, after all, a Victorian time, and the proper thing to do was to protect Pete's little sister (she was 15!) from scandal. And so all of the ridiculous and strained details about walking across the parade ground in his stocking feet to get meat, was made up to protect the Maxwell name.

In the "official" telling of the events leading up to the death of the Kid, deputies Poe and McKinney claim they noticed a lone figure approaching on the inside of the fence. He is hatless and in his stocking feet. And, most tellingly, he's buttoning his pants. I don't believe this and I'm convinced it didn't happen.

A Querida In Every Plaza

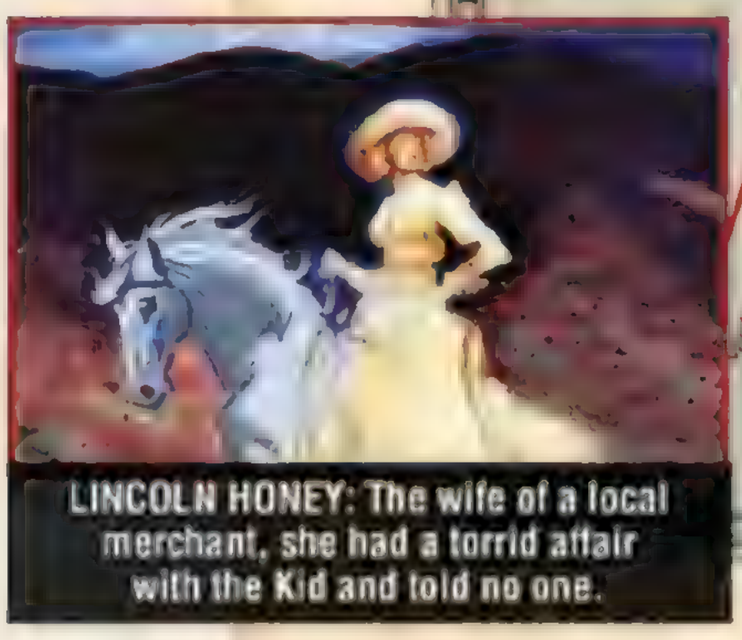
EMILY SCHULANDER

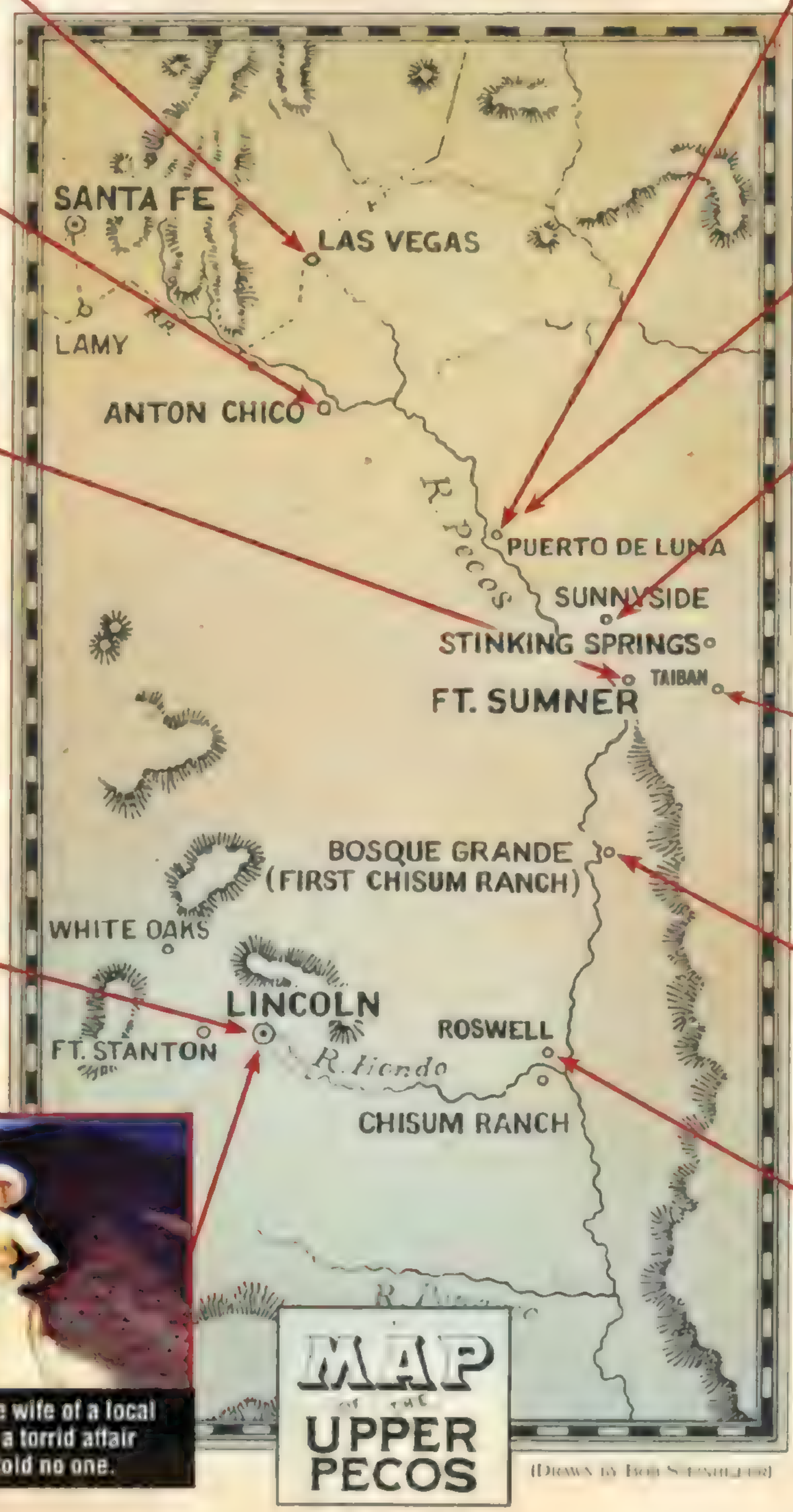

MINNIE SHIELD

DELUVINA MAXELL

MYSTERIOUS MAMACITA

CARLOTTA BACA


LINCOLN HONEY: The wife of a local merchant, she had a torrid affair with the Kid and told no one.



CELSA FLOREZ

FREDRICKE DEOLAVERA

LILY HUNTRESS

NASARIA YERBY

SALLIE CHISUM

EMILY BRUJA

Billy loved them all, but he took a bullet in the heart for one of them. The question is, which one?

– IMAGE MONTAGE BY REBECCA EDWARDS –

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Who is Dandy Dick?

Was Billy a good dancer?

Was Billy the Kid a "Bonnie Lass Toolie"?

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Why did the Kid jump out of a burning house?

Who rescued Billy the Kid from obscurity?

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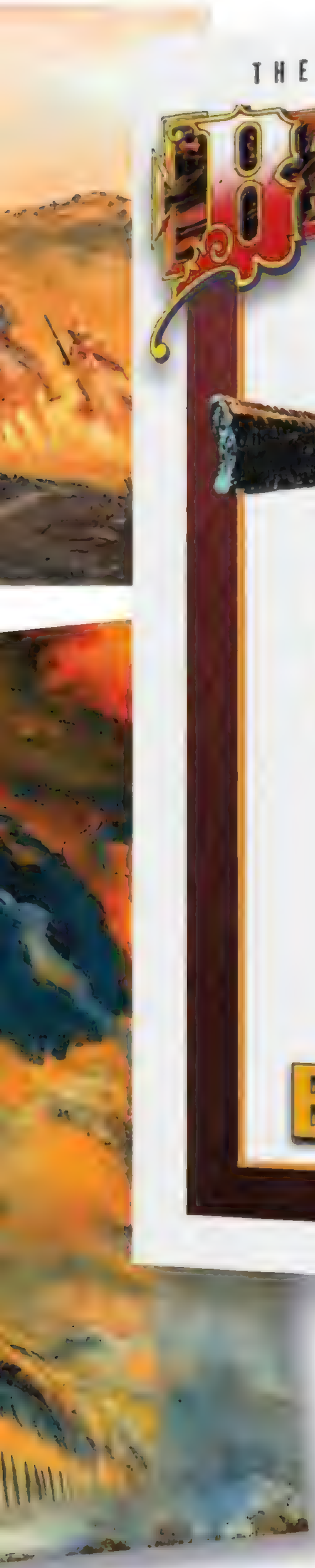

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Who was the Fanner-Fifty Kid?

Editor's Note: *True West*'s late publisher and friend Robert G. McCubbin regularly shared his photo collection with the magazine and its readers, believing that the photos should be seen and enjoyed by those who love Old West history. If you'd like to read more of McCubbin's articles and view more of his rare photos of the the West, please go to*TrueWestMagazine.com* and subscribe for full access to nearly 67 years' worth of exciting issues of *True West*.

CAPTURING PROTECTORS OF PEACE

Rare shots of Old West lawmen with firearms—and without.

BY ROBERT G. MCCUBBIN

Many deserving Old West lawmen have not received their due in history.

We all know the ones who have questionable aspects to their careers and were no more than "part time" lawmen—Wild Bill Hickok, Dallas Stoudenmire, Ben Thompson and Elfego Baca. They were more gunfighters than professional lawmen. The fame of others, like Bat Masterson, eclipses what they actually accomplished as peace officers. Although controversial, the Earps and Frank Canton wore badges for many years and were mostly on the side of the law. And some are remembered only for the way they died—such as Chauncey Whitney (murdered by Billy Thompson in Ellsworth, Kansas) and Fred White (killed in the streets of Tombstone, Arizona, by Curly Bill Brocius).

Those that I consider most deserving for what they did as lawmen are Heck Thomas, Bill Tilghman and Bud Ledbetter of Oklahoma; John Slaughter of Arizona; Pat Garrett of New Mexico; Harry Morse of California; John X. Beidler of Montana; and Bear River Tom Smith of Kansas. Their accomplishments outweigh any negatives in their lives.

FRANK CANTON

Beginning life as Joe Horner—a cowboy, Indian fighter and outlaw—he drifted into Wyoming, where he changed his name and became a range detective. From that time on, he was Frank Canton. He served as a lawman in Wyoming, Oklahoma Territory and Alaska, and eventually spent 10 years as the first adjutant general of the new state of Oklahoma. A lifelong cattleman, Canton was one of the leaders during the "invasion" of Wyoming's Johnson County. The portrait above mirrors the character of a man with amazing adventures and courage to match.

BEAR RIVER TOM

Thomas J. Smith is better known as Bear River Tom. He received the nickname because of a skirmish he had in the end-of-track railroad town of Bear River, Wyoming. He became the first marshal of Abilene, Kansas, and shortly thereafter was nearly decapitated by an ax while attempting to arrest a murderer. Smith is remembered as a calm, no-nonsense officer who preferred to use his fists rather than his guns. Former President Dwight D. Eisenhower admired Smith, saying, "While he almost never carried a pistol he...subdued the lawless by the force of his personality and his tremendous capability as an athlete. One blow of his fist was apparently enough to knock out the ordinary 'tough' cowboy." The Abilene residents, however, decided a different approach was needed and hired Wild Bill Hickok to take Smith's place.

GUTHRIE LAWMEN, 1889

Typical in photos of the time, few smiles light up the faces of these lawmen in the new boomtown of Guthrie, Oklahoma Territory. The only person positively identified is Jim Masterson, brother of Bat, waving his hat above his head. Many officers sport badges, but only Masterson seems to have a weapon—a small pistol stuffed in his pants' waistband. Jim served as a lawman for as much or more time than his more famous brother did.

JOHN X. BEIDLER

Vigilantes were a form of lawmen, although illegitimate. Nowhere were they more active and effective than in Montana Territory during the 1860s. Most prominent among them was John X. Beidler. Years later, Beidler petitioned the territory for $5,000 to compensate him for his work as a vigilante, which "broke your petitioner up in all his business ventures, and caused him to spend all his time, money, and property to protect the lives and property of the settlers and miners." Beidler had a point, but the politicians turned him down.

TRUE WEST ARCHIVES

For the first time ever, every issue of *True West* magazine is now online, including Robert G. McCubbin's original, unabridged article as it appeared in the June 2005 issue. To learn more about how you can read all of McCubbin's articles and subscribe to *True West* Archives, go to *TrueWestMagazine.com*.

Our past awaits you!

POSING IN PEACE

The photos presented are seldom-seen images of Old West lawmen who deserve to be remembered.

It is interesting to observe how Old West lawmen appear in surviving photographs. They usually posed in suits rather than buckskins or cowboy attire. And they rarely posed with guns. To my knowledge, there are no known authentic photos of Wyatt Earp (or any of the Earps), Bat Masterson, Ben Thompson or Pat Garrett with firearms. Cowboys, scouts, rangers, buffalo hunters, showmen—all liked to pose "in costume" and with guns. But few photos exist of Old West lawmen with weapons in evidence.

BY KIMBERLY BOWKER

LITTLE-KNOWN CHARACTERS OF THE OLD WEST

Olive Johnson

A coal camp teacher discovered herself and the world in the Mohrland, Utah, melting pot.

Olive Johnson stood on the train station platform in Price, Utah, on an early September morning in 1913. She waited to hear the locomotive's whistle signal its readiness to transport her deeper into the West, to begin her next chapter as a schoolteacher in a coal mining camp.

Yet, the train never arrived. She asked the operator what time it would leave for the town of Mohrland.

"Don't think there will be a train today," he said.

Somewhat exasperated, Olive waited, daring not to stray far from the depot, as the train ran only when there was enough coal.

"Lordy! This is life in the West," she wrote her husband, Gus. They had married in her Colorado home after meeting at her family's ranch. He was finishing construction at Salt Lake City's new Capitol building before joining her.

Olive was pleasantly surprised, though, upon finally reaching Mohrland nestled in the mesas and valleys of the mineral-rich rocks. *"No farming for ten miles around,"* she wrote, and in nearby Black Hawk they were *"building about four saloons where there were six fellows to every woman."*

The principal of the school met Olive at the train station, running to greet her in fear that she wasn't coming. Olive quickly made home in a cottage for $9 a month, complete with electric lights, water and furnishings, in a life continuously accompanied by a layer of coal dust.

Gus soon joined his wife. He worked in construction to help build the camp's coal tipple. The couple quickly fell into routine, building a hardworking and cheerful life together.

"We really don't have time for anything—if we do—we must take it off our sleep—which goes pretty hard in this altitude (nearly 8,000 ft). Our evenings are spent in cooking for the next day and school work. Saturdays in washing and ironing. Gus had to work nearly every Sunday... and we are so happy.

Olive taught 49 primary students in her one-room schoolhouse for $80 a month. Many children were from families who immigrated from Greece, Italy, Japan and Austria to work in the mines, students of both Mormon and non-Mormon faiths. The coal camp was organized according to the international backgrounds—Olive would buy bread from the Greek baker, and the Italian milkman would leave a quart of milk on her porch every morning at 9 am.

A pastime that brought everyone at the camps together was baseball. Workers in the mine received higher wages if they played on the team, and games provided grand social events. Dances also enlivened community spirit, with desks in Olive's schoolhouse pushed aside to make room for the "Sawmill Savages" orchestra to celebrate the miners breaking the record of 42 trips of coal in one day.

Olive was soon promoted to principal, but she and her husband departed Mohrland a few years later in 1915, to continue on their westward journey to Oregon.

The coal mining camp gathered together to host a farewell to the woman who greeted each morning with positivity, hard work and fortitude—contributing those values to the foundation of their community and a strong thread of the Western fabric.

Dr. Raley read a speech about Olive's time in the camp:

"She has so endeared herself to every one of us...she has been our teacher, preceptress, friend...we feel now that her place cannot be filled by any other. Signed, the People of Mohrland."

Olive Ault Johnson, photographed in 1913, was born in Colorado in 1885. She served as a school teacher, and her husband, Gus, worked in construction while they traveled around the West until they settled along Klamath Lake in southern Oregon as owners of Harriman Lodge.

– ALL IMAGES COURTESY OLIVE JOHNSON COLLECTION –

Kimberly Bowker is a writer based in Bend, Oregon. She grew up listening to stories about Olive, her great-grandmother, as her mother and grandmother read family letters aloud. She wrote about Olive's life in her undergraduate history thesis: "Reading Her Cursive: One Woman's Life in a Utah Mining Town."

The Castle Valley Coal Company's tipple in Mohrland loaded approximately 1,000 tons of coal into railroad cars a day in 1913–14.

Hired by the Castle Valley Coal Company, which owned the town, Olive Johnson (back row, second from the right) stood proudly with her class in front of the Mohrland schoolhouse. Utah's Cedar Creek Canyon coal towns drew workers from many countries, and multiple languages would lilt around the schoolroom throughout the day.

Gus Johnson (front) traveled along railroad tracks on a trip between Mohrland, Utah, and the neighboring mining town of Hiawatha.

Olive and Gus married in 1912 and built their "Honeymoon Home" on her family's Colorado ranch before beginning their journey to Utah.

A postcard sent to Olive in 1915 showed miners in front of a coal mine in Mohrland.

BY JOHNNY D. BOGGS

On the Trail to Texas Statehood

Discover the Lone Star State, from Nacogdoches to Austin, 175 years later.

Where does the path to Texas statehood begin? There's the Alamo, the San Antonio mission where more than 180 Texas volunteers died fighting against Mexican troops commanded by Antonio López de Santa Anna in late February and early March 1836. Or there's Goliad, where more than 400 Texas prisoners, who had surrendered after the Battle of Coleto, were executed. Or at Gonzales, site of the October 1835 "Come and Take It" challenge, and the battle that kicked off the Texas Revolution. Or maybe it's Washington-on-the-Brazos, where delegates drafted a constitution and declared their independence, giving birth to the Republic of Texas on March 2, 1836.

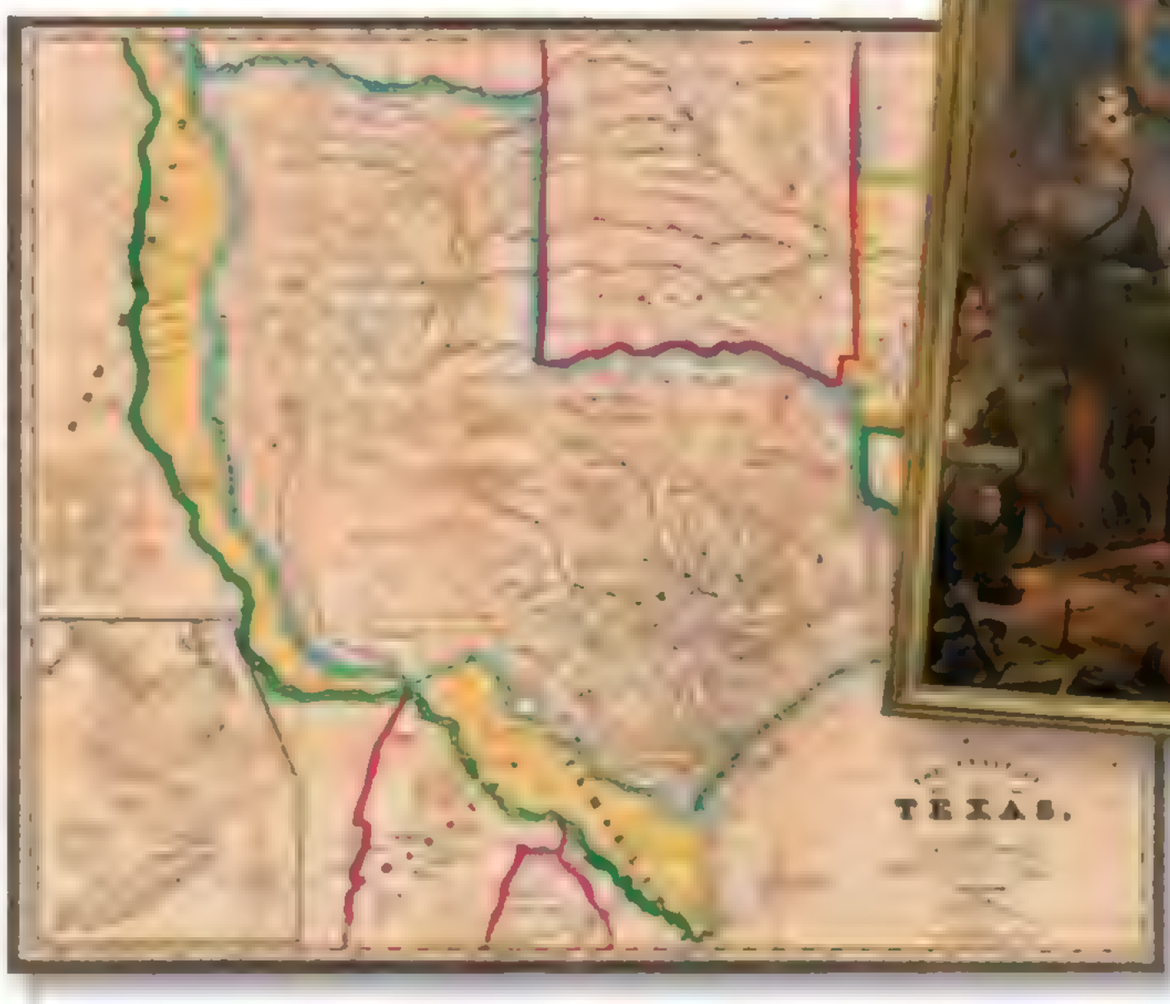
Nah, it started more than a decade earlier, in San Felipe, roughly 50 miles east of Houston. There, in 1823, Stephen F. Austin brought in 297 families from the United States to establish his colony. By the 1830s, only San Antonio rivaled Austin's settlement commercially. San Felipe also became Texas's first provisional capital before Washington-on-the-Brazos took over, and with Mexican troops advancing, San Felipe residents burned their town during the Runaway Scrape. Today, the town is home to San Felipe de Austin State Historic Site.

But, to kick off this journey, we'll start 188 miles northwest in Nacogdoches, the gateway to Texas. The East Texas town was founded in 1779, but Caddo Indians had settled here in the ninth century. Just about every emigrant who came to Texas went through Nacogdoches (see the Stone Fort and Nacogdoches Sterne-Hoya museums). Thomas Rusk, who helped write the state constitution, lived here. Rusk served with Sam Houston as the first U.S. senators from the state of Texas.

No Lone Star history trip is complete without stopping in Waco at the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame & Museum. Indians had lived in the area, and a few white settlers had set up shops in the early 1840s, but it wasn't until 1849 that George B. Erath, a Republic congressman, began laying out lots, making Waco one of the first towns founded in the state of Texas.

The biggest supporter of statehood, of course, was Houston. The general who crushed Santa Anna at San Jacinto in La Porte (San Jacinto Museum of History), Houston lived his final years in Huntsville (Sam Houston Memorial Museum). After winning independence from Mexico, most Texans supported annexation into the United States, but getting a treaty approved by either the U.S. or the Republic took some maneuvering. Texas, Houston said, "was more coy than forward" in its negotiations.

Mirabeau B. Lamar certainly wasn't coy. The Republic's president from 1838-41,



One of the first official maps of the state of Texas published in early 1846 illustrates Texas's land claims of the Rio Grande watershed west to New Mexico and the disputed boundaries with Mexico. The state's boundary disputes would not be resolved until after the Mexican-American War, the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo with the Republic of Mexico in 1848 and the Compromise of 1850.

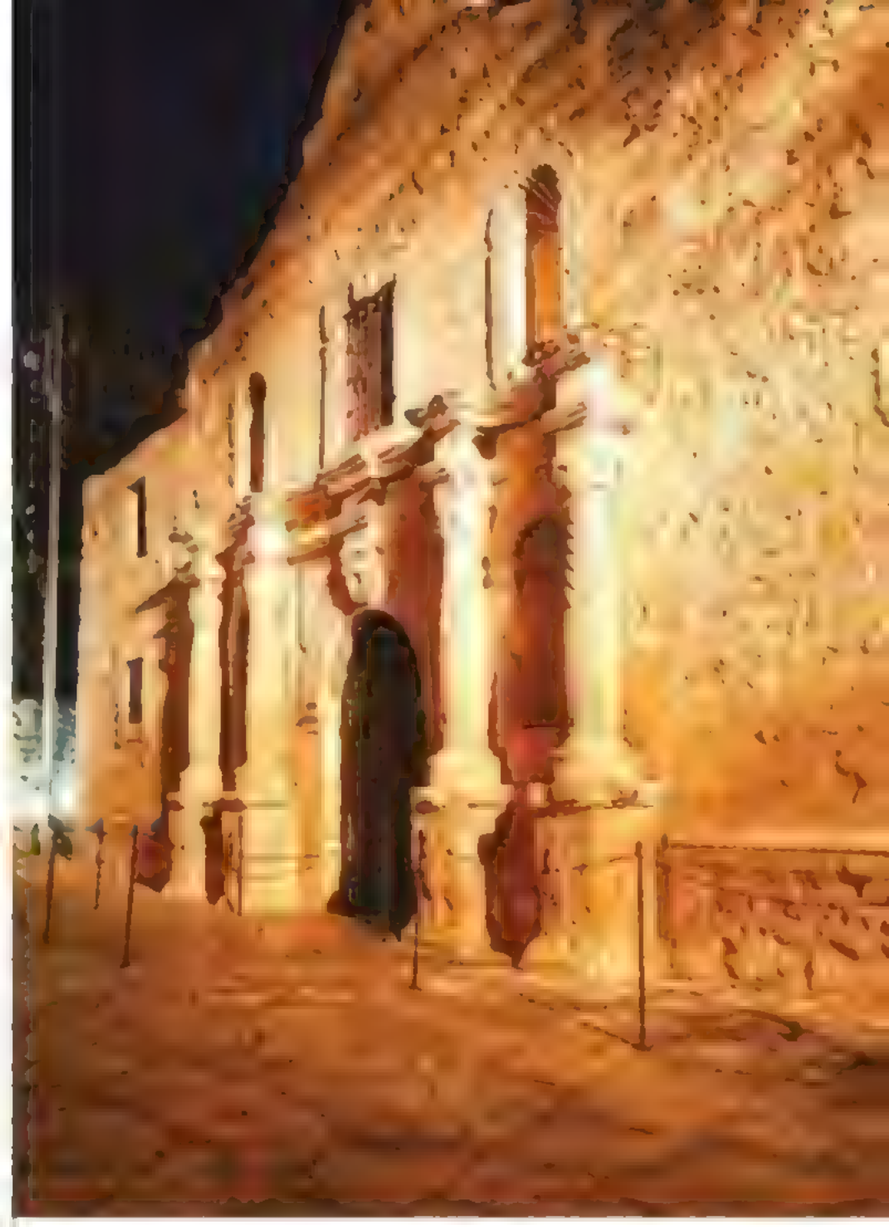
– COURTESY NYPL DIGITAL COLLECTIONS –

In 1824, Texas colony founder Stephen F. Austin rallied his fellow colonists to victory against the local Karankawa Indians. Henry Arthur McArdle's dramatic painting *The Settlement of Austin's Colony*, can be viewed in the Texas House of Representatives' chamber in the state capitol building.

– COURTESY THE LYDA HILL TEXAS COLLECTION OF PHOTOGRAPHS IN CAROL M. HIGHSMITH'S AMERICA PROJECT, LIBRARY OF CONGRESS –

Governor of Texas in 1861, Sam Houston, having fought so hard for Texas statehood, refused to take an oath of allegiance to the Confederacy and was removed from office. He died and was buried in Huntsville in 1863.

– MATTHEW BRADY PHOTO OF SAM HOUSTON COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS/PHOTO OF SAM HOUSTON'S GRAVE BY JOHNNY D. BOGGS –



Texas troops were stationed at the Alamo off and on during the Republic years—for good reason. Twice in 1842, Santa Anna ordered raids into San Antonio—one reason the city was never considered as Texas's capital.

– JOHNNY D. BOGGS –

Lamar and his followers figured the Republic could challenge the U.S. as North America's big cheese. Lamar also wanted to drive all the Indians out of Texas. An adopted Cherokee, Houston was sympathetic to many Indian issues. Houston and Lamar despised one another.

Texas couldn't get its act together. It had trouble enough finding a capital. Harrisburg, now part of Houston, and Galveston (The Bryan Museum) briefly housed the government during the 1836 fighting. The capital moved to Washington-on-the-Brazos … Galveston again … plus Velasco—which was annexed by Freeport (Freeport Historical Museum)—and then Columbia, which became West Columbia (Columbia Historical Museum), and finally Houston (The Heritage Society) from 1837-39. Austin became the capital during Lamar's reign (Lamar serve in Houston? Get serious!). When Houston came back as president from 1841-44, the capital returned to Washington-on-the-Brazos and Houston. Austin (Bullock Museum, Texas Governor's Mansion) finally won out with the Constitution of 1845 and statewide votes in 1850 and 1872.

San Antonio (The Alamo, Briscoe Western Art Museum) was never in the running as a capital city because it remained on the frontier. When Republic troops occupied the Alamo, they often looted the mission.

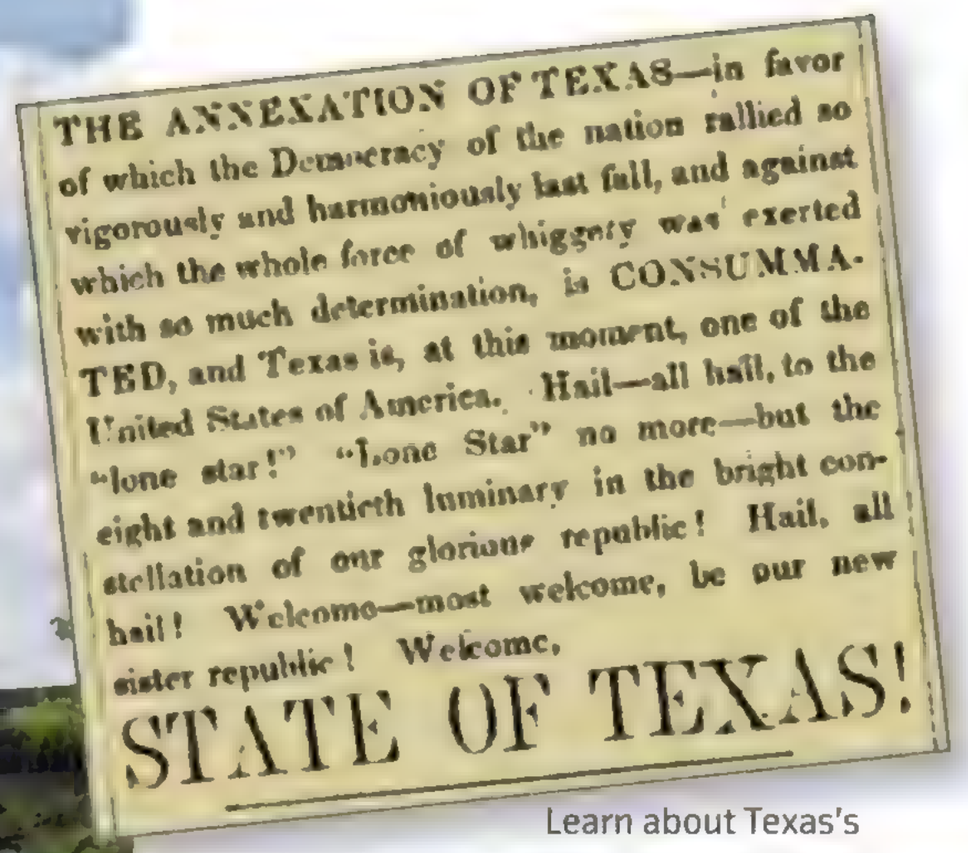
Anyone who has seen the 1952 film *Lone Star* knows that it took a fistfight between Clark Gable and Broderick Crawford to secure annexation. Anyone who has seen *Lone Star* also knows Hollywood didn't care about actual history and never should have cast Crawford in Westerns.

It took a different kind of fight—a political one—to save annexation. Great Britain befriended Lamar and worked on getting Mexico to recognize the Republic. That worried Washington D.C., which did not want England gaining a foothold on the continent. When Houston regained the Republic's presidency, he began working on annexation again. But bringing a slave state into the Union made Senate ratification unlikely.

Discussion resumed in January 1844. At Houston's insistence, U.S. President John Tyler sent the Navy to the Gulf of Mexico and troops to the U.S.-Texas border. On

A downtown Nacodogches statue of trader and adventurer Dón Antonio Gil Y'Barbo honors the man who founded Spain's first pueblo in Texas history.

– PIERCE INGRAM, COURTESY TEXAS TOURISM –


THE ANNEXATION OF TEXAS—in favor of which the Democracy of the nation rallied so vigorously and harmoniously last fall, and against which the whole force of whiggery was exerted with so much determination, is CONSUMMATED, and Texas is, at this moment, one of the United States of America. Hail—all hail, to the "lone star!" "Lone Star" no more—but the eight and twentieth luminary in the bright constellation of our glorious republic! Hail, all hail! Welcome—most welcome, be our new sister republic! Welcome,
STATE OF TEXAS!

Learn about Texas's contentious and controversial path to 1845 statehood at the Bullock Texas State History Museum in Austin, Texas.

– PHOTO OF BULLOCK MUSEUM COURTESY THE LYDA HILL TEXAS COLLECTION OF PHOTOGRAPHS IN CAROL M. HIGHSMITH'S AMERICA PROJECT, LIBRARY OF CONGRESS /YORK, PENNSYLVANIA "GAZETTE" CLIPPING COURTESY NEWSPAPER.COM –

April 11, 1844, the U.S. and Republic signed a treaty. Texas would enter the Union as a territory; the U.S. would assume $10 million of Texas debt and negotiate a boundary with Mexico. Not so fast, said the Senate, voting down the treaty, 35-16, mostly on anti-slavery grounds.

It took the lure of the West—Manifest Destiny—to make Texas a state. James K. Polk was elected U.S. president in 1844, partly on a platform of westward expansion. He wanted Oregon and Texas as states.

"[Y]ou will perceive that Texas is presented to the union as a bride adorned for her espousal," Houston said. "But if, now so confident of the union, she should be rejected, her mortification would be indescribable. She has sought the United States, and this is the third time she has consented. Were she now to be spurned it would forever terminate expectation on her part, and it

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would then not only be left for the United States to expect that she would seek some other friend, but all Christendom would justify her course dictated by necessity and sanctioned by wisdom."

And Houston trashed Lamar's writing?!

Mexico, pressured by England, offered a treaty with Texas, but that ship had sailed. Back at Washington-on-the-Brazos in 1845, Republic president Anson Jones called for a state constitution to be drafted. Meanwhile, the U.S. approved a joint resolution—no treaty this time—that would bring Texas into the Union.

On December 29, 1845, Congress accepted Texas's constitution and the Lone Star State became the 28th star on Old Glory.

Jones was soon out of a job, concluding in his farewell address: "The Republic of Texas is no more." James Pinckney Henderson took the guv's office on February 19, 1846.

All of which started the Mexican-American War. But that's another Renegade Road.

Johnny D. Boggs's latest novels are *A Thousand Texas Longhorns* and *Matthew Johnson, U.S. Marshal.*

A WIDE SPOT IN THE ROAD

ENCHANTED ROCK STATE NATURAL AREA

It's hard to turn your head anywhere in Texas and not find a story about the Texas Rangers. Roughly 20 miles north of Fredericksburg, one of the Hill Country's most stunning sites is also home of an enduring Ranger legend/myth. In scientific terms, Enchanted Rock is a dome of pink granite that rises about 385 feet above the bed of Sandy Creek. Its name comes from folklore; Indians credited the dome with magical powers. Legend has it that in the 1840s Texas Ranger Capt. John Coffee Hays, cut off from his company by Comanches, singlehandedly held off attackers for three hours, reconfirming the Comanches' belief in Enchanted Rock's mystical powers. (Hays credited either his Paterson Colt revolvers or an Edwin Wesson rifle.) Many doubt that the fight actually happened, but this being Texas, keep that to yourself and just enjoy Mother Nature's scenery at Enchanted Rock State Natural Area.

GOOD EATS AND SLEEPS

GOOD GRUB: Silos Baking Co., *Waco;* **City Hall Café and Pie Bar,** *Huntsville;* **The Western Steakhouse & Dancehall,** *Navasota;* **Original City Market BBQ,** *Luling*
GOOD LODGING: Fredonia Hotel and Convention Center, *Nacogdoches;* **The Sam Houston,** *Houston;* **The Crockett Hotel,** *San Antonio;* **Driskill Hotel,** *Austin*

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– CHRIS ZEBO, COURTESY TRAVEL TEXAS –

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BY SHERRY MONAHAN

A Dickens Christmas on the Frontier

Western pioneers brought the yuletide tradition of roast goose to their holiday hearths.

Many Western homemakers, chefs and butchers depended on wild game hunters like these Klamath Falls, Oregon, and Alberta, Canada, hunters (inset), to keep local larders—and Christmas dinner tables—supplied with wild goose for holiday feasts.

– OREGON HUNTER PHOTO COURTESY OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY/ ALBERTA HUNTER PHOTO COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS –

Goose is often thought of as a Dickens tradition but Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's were times for roasting turkeys and geese across the American frontier. Some pioneers hunted their own, some ate theirs at restaurants and others ordered them from the local grocer or butcher. A handful of less-than-reputable pioneers chose to get them by "helping themselves." Such was the case in Portland, Oregon, in 1871 when a man decided to steal a goose for Christmas. He was caught, but he did enjoy a "free" holiday meal at public expense in the city jail.

Roast goose was served at restaurants like the Keystone in Deadwood, South Dakota; the Hotel Florence in Missoula, Montana, where it was served with jelly sauce; the old English Kitchen in Rapid City, South Dakota; and the Fifth Avenue restaurant, which served it with onion dressing. Smoked goose breasts and legs, as well as the luxurious goose fat, also were popular and offered at local butcher shops. Restaurants and private events also featured smoked goose, like the Central Kansas Medical Society, which featured it with cranberry jelly.

Toward the end of the 19th century, turkey was "in" and goose was "out." Iowa's *Pottsville Review* reported that while the goose was still popular in England, the turkey was winning in America. The paper reported that while only the turkey breast was considered edible in the past, modern techniques of removing the leg tendons now made the drumstick edible. It wrote, "There is no edible bird to compare in economy with the turkey."

Goose parts, however, remained popular and were sold across the West. William Brueggerhoff was a merchant in Austin,

Texas, who offered German delicacies that included smoked goose breast and "goose grease" in 1880. R. Davis & Co. offered goose breast in Tucson, Arizona, and so did the Vienna Sausage Co., which had a store in St. Louis, Missouri. The Ledanyi brothers sold the notable Chicago Vienna Sausages (called frankfurters today), as well as goose fat, goose breasts and legs. And, yes, they are the ones who introduced frankfurters in 1893 at the Chicago World's Fair. A German man named C. Hermann had a "delicatessen store" in Butte, Montana, where he sold smoked goose breast and goose liver sausages. By the way, *delicatessen* is a German-based word meaning delicacy.

Frozen goose can be found at local grocers today, but you can cook a goose like the pioneers did by ordering a fresh one. Heritage Valley Poultry in southern Idaho offers whole goose and Schiltz Foods (spelled differently than the beer) in South Dakota offers whole goose, legs, breasts and smoked products. White Oak Pastures was founded in 1866 in Bluffton, Georgia, and offers goose today, too.

Sherry Monahan kicked off her journey into Old West cuisine, spirits and places by authoring *Taste of Tombstone*. Visit *SherryMonahan.com* to learn more about her books, awards and TV appearances.

ROAST GOOSE LEGS

2 cups water
4 lbs. goose leg (about 6)
1 medium onion, chopped
freshly ground pepper
3 teaspoons salt
6 fresh sage leaves or 1 tsp. dried sage

Separate the skin from the meat and prick all over with a fork to release the fat.

Preheat the oven to 400°. Rub the goose with two teaspoons of the salt, freshly ground pepper and sage. Put goose legs on the baking pan with the skin side up, sprinkle the onion around and pour water into the pan. Cook for one hour.

Flip the legs over and cook for 30 minutes. Turn over again and reduce heat to 375°and cook for 30 more minutes. Turn the goose legs again so the skin side is facing up and sprinkle with the remaining salt. Increase the oven to 400° and roast for 15 more minutes or until the skin is golden brown, but not burned. Serve with pan gravy.

Recipe adapted from North Dakota's *Griggs Courier*, January 26, 1894

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WESTERN BOOKS

BOOK REVIEWS EDITOR: STUART ROSEBROOK

Blind Pig Bonanza

A new biography on the bonanza-seeking Earps, plus new Western histories and biographies on an Old West rifle, Spanish Texas, a coal war gunman and a Sioux War reporter.

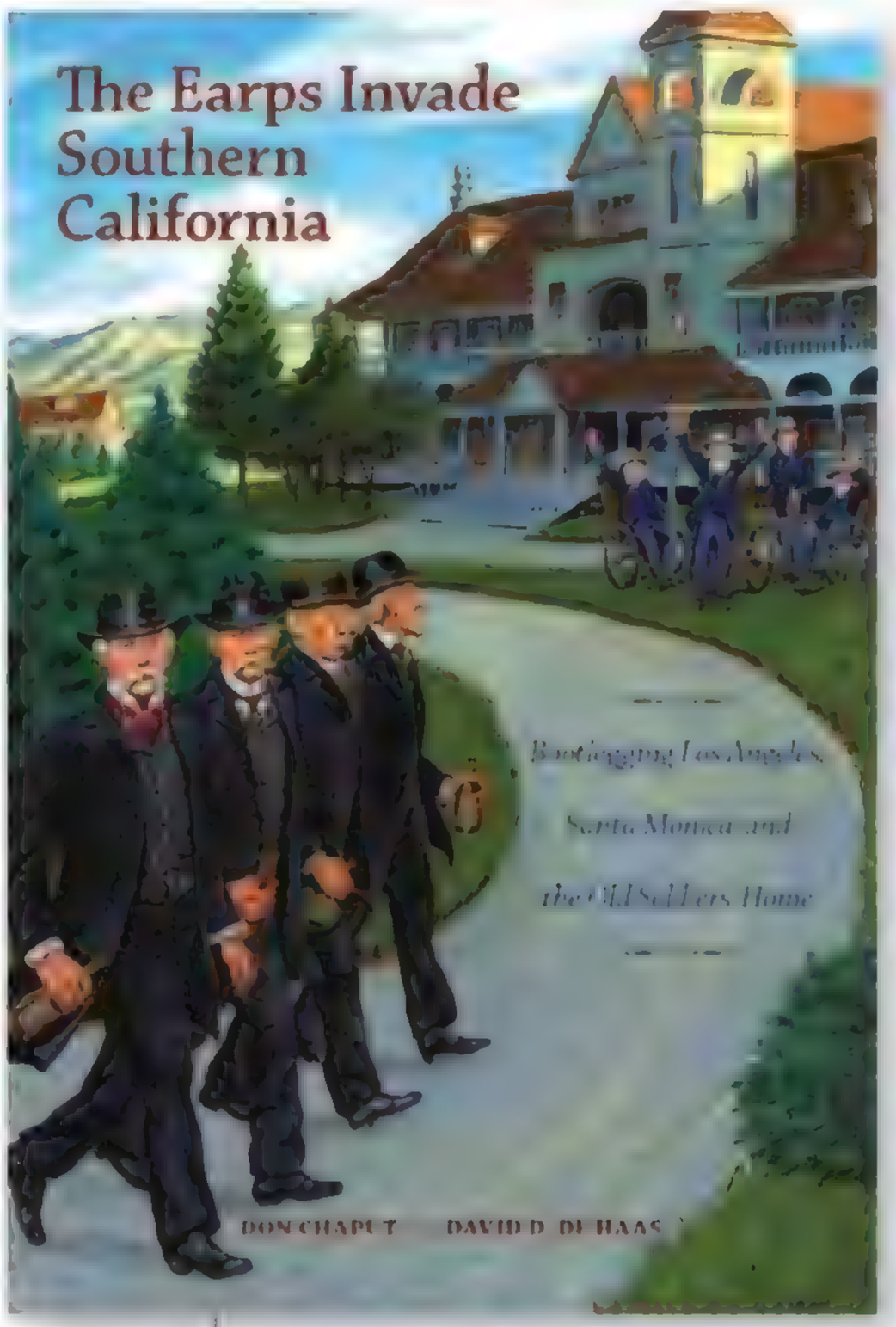
Infamous Tammany Hall Democratic boss of New York George Washington Plunkitt is famous for saying "I seen my opportunities and I took 'em." After finishing Don Chaput and David D. De Haas's *The Earps Invade Southern California: Bootlegging Los Angeles, Santa Monica, and the Old Soldiers' Home* (University of North Texas Press, $24.95), I would argue (and I believe many Earp biographers, including Chaput and De Haas) that the Republican Earps lived and died by Plunkitt's maxim in their never-ending quest for the next money-making Western bonanza. The authors state in their opening prologue: "The mine or town 'in bonanza' was a throbbing place, with so much profit on hand the even marginal people or lowlifes could expect a piece of the action." And the two generations of Earps who descended on the Old Soldiers' Home and the boomtown of Sawtelle, California, in 1900, saw a bonanza waiting to be made and taken. Along with all the other lowlifes, they moved nearby to take advantage of over 2,000 thirsty veterans living out their lonely lives with monthly pensions burning holes in their pockets in their alcohol-prohibited home.

Readers of *The Earps Invade Southern California* will realize early on why the authors included a plethora of maps and illustrations to accompany the Earps' story of bootlegging and blind pigs in the town of Sawtelle in West Los Angeles. Just like driving in L.A. then and now, a roadmap is needed to keep up with all of the Earps' movements—and the players, major and minor, they dealt with—in one of their final (il)legal plays to cash in on the vices and thirsts of the veterans living their final years in the sunny Pacific climate. Because the story is complex, the authors regularly remind readers where the Earps had tread in the years before they went to Sawtelle, providing needed context and background for Earp-history novices.

What makes *The Earps Invade Southern California* one of the decade's most important volumes on the Earps is Chaput and De Haas's effort as historians to place the Earp family members within a very fluid, interconnected community of bonanza-seekers and Southwestern entrepreneurs, all of whom crossed paths at some point in Tombstone, the Arizona Territory, Los Angeles and Southern California. Bolstering their research are detailed endnotes and a bibliography. Two highly informative appendices, "Some of the Other Soldiers" and "The Sawtelle Battle Earp Reserve Troops," offer detailed mini biographies providing insight into the lives of dozens of men (and some women) involved in the legal and illegal escapades in and around the Old Soldiers' Home, and those who found a greater bonanza in in California's southland than they ever did in chasing silver and gold across the West's mining camps.

But what of the Earps? Did they find their final bonanza or *borrasca* in Los Angeles? Was their final play a last desperate act of the grift they had been on for more than four decades? Or was it a glorious gamble that let them live out their lives comfortably with some dignity left, knowing that all parties got what they wanted amid the dens of vice, blind pigs and prohibition alcohol on the seedy side streets of Sawtelle? The authors say it best: "They put up a good show."

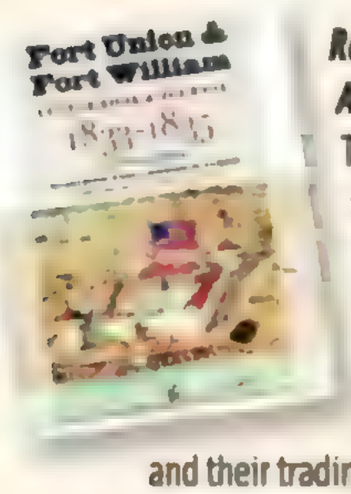
—*Stuart Rosebrook*



ROUGH DRAFTS

Two publishers that work hard at their trade are South Dakota Historical Society Press, which specializes in Western American history and biography, and Wolfpack Publishing, the fastest-growing publisher of Western fiction. Enjoy these bonus reviews of two of their recent books, and if you like them, check out their catalogs at *SDHSPress.com* and *WolfpackPublishing.com*.

–Stuart Rosebrook



Rocky Mountain Adventures

The American Fur Trade was something of a fleeting enterprise. Based in a lawless land with little oversight, trappers, merchants and their trading posts fought for control of the high plains and its abundant resources. W. Raymond Wood and Michael M. Casler follow up *Fort Tecumseh and Fort Pierre Chouteau: Journal and Letter Books, 1830-1850* (2017) with their second volume for South Dakota Historical Society Press, *Fort Union and Fort William: Letter Book and Journal, 1833-1835* ($29.18). Both volumes offer previously unpublished material on the fur trade era of North America. *Fort Union and Fort William* specifically addresses the dramatic change affecting the Upper Missouri Outfit of the American Fur Company.

–Erik Wright, author of Phil Foote: Lawman, Outlaw, Hell-Raiser

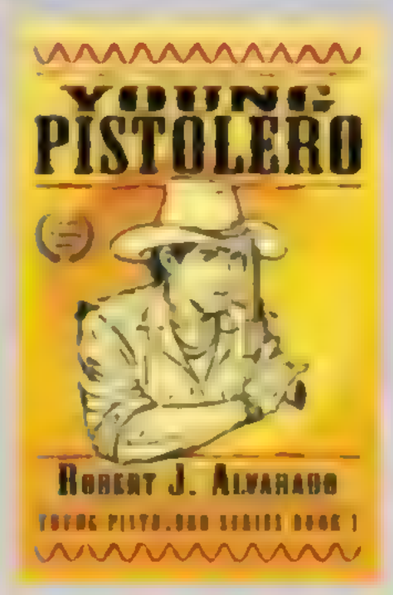
Revenge: A Dish Served Cold

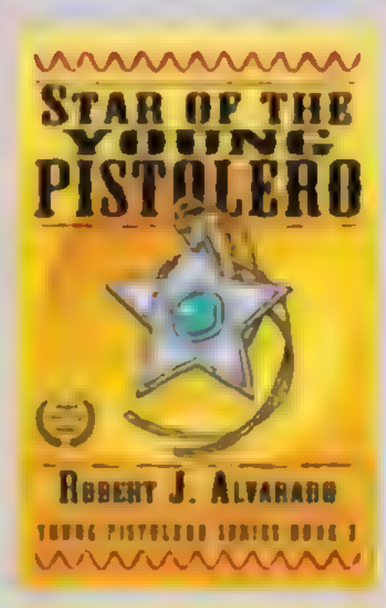
The Lucky Lady Saloon by Linnell Jeppsen (Wolfpack Publishing, $6.39) follows the life of Sweetie Mack, whose life turned upside down when at age 13, her father was murdered while she watches. The same outlaws then assaulted her. She avenges retribution and spends years plotting and planning. Fortunately, her uncle left her monied, and with it, she built a small empire, all the while with an eye on the prize. Both factions employ many men and then, more than halfway through the story, the Chinese Tong mob is introduced, bringing with them myriad characters. While the ending is relatively satisfying, Sweetie did not get the justice and revenge she so desperately sought. An enjoyable read.

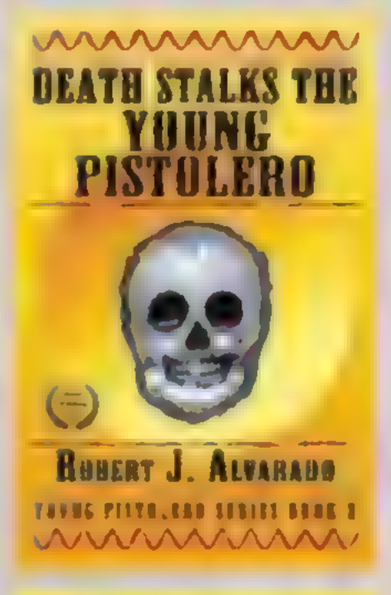
–Melody Groves, author of When Outlaws Wore Badges

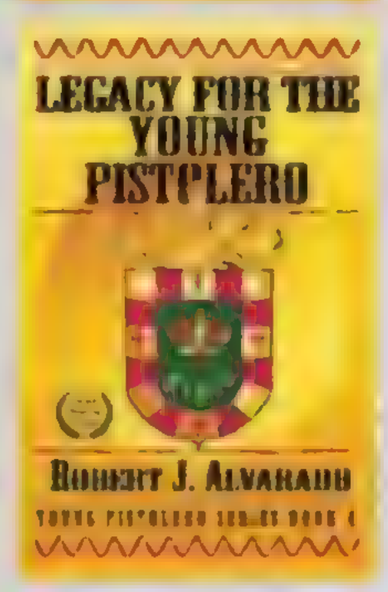
YOUNG PISTOLERO SERIES

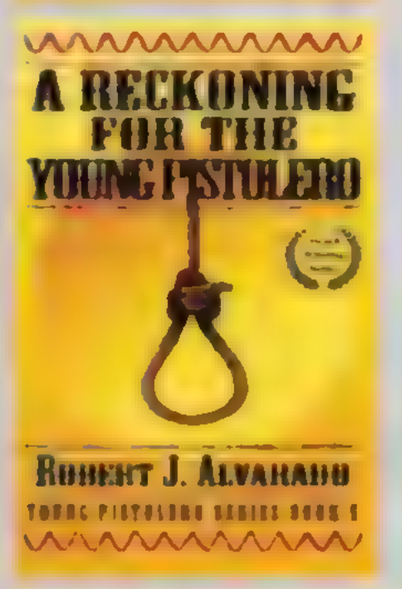
BY ROBERT J. ALVARADO

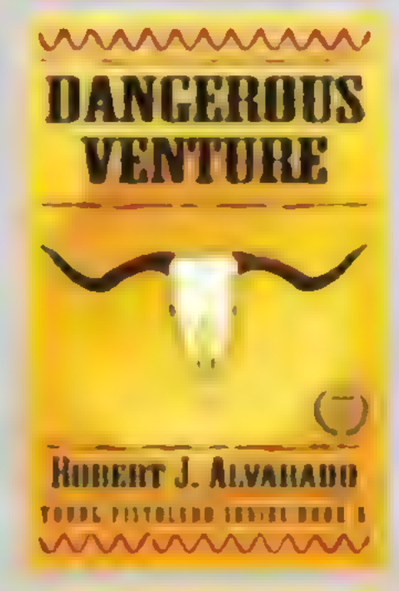


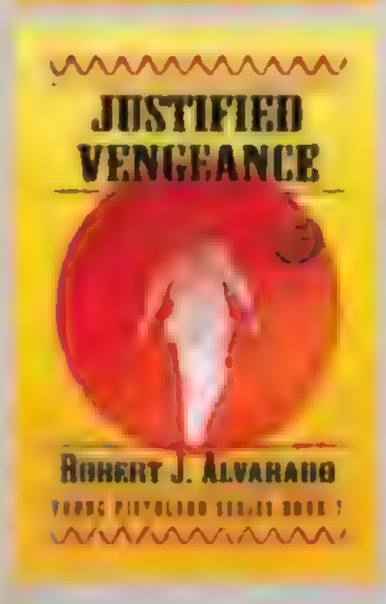


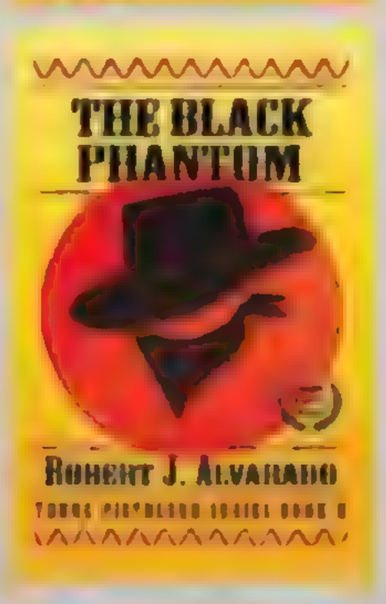












Published by Sierra Press.
Available online in both print and electronic formats from Amazon and other major outlets.

For more information:
YoungPistolero.com

This award-winning saga is set primarily in the Southwest where Americans are settling after the Mexican-American War. The territories are undergoing unique and savage change as they shed 300 years of Spanish rule. The saga is told through the life of a young peasant, a fugitive on the run riding a stolen Appaloosa stallion. He enters Texas in 1866 to find life on this side of the border holds new dangers along with the promise of a new life. The author integrates historical aspects into a tale, rich with both good and evil, in a time when the Wild West was in full swing.

Alvarado's novel could be the basis for a television western, because of its engrossing plot and its clear depiction of heroes and villains

–Dr. Jennie Nelson, PhD in Rhetoric and Writing, Carnegie Mellon University, post-graduate professor of writing, University of Idaho

Mr. Alvarado vividly illustrates many rugged times after the Civil and Mexican American Wars through the eyes of a 17 year old peon who comes to the U.S. and adapts and grows into a hero. The Young Pistolero is a great new historical western series!

–Richard Golenda, post Secondary and College History Teacher and post Chairman of the Pueblo Economic Development Corporation

The author's descriptions, dialogue, and conversations are so right on that it will make the reader feel as if they were right there in the midst of all of it. 2015-2017 #1 Top Ten Fiction

–Corina Martinez Chaudhry, Latino Author

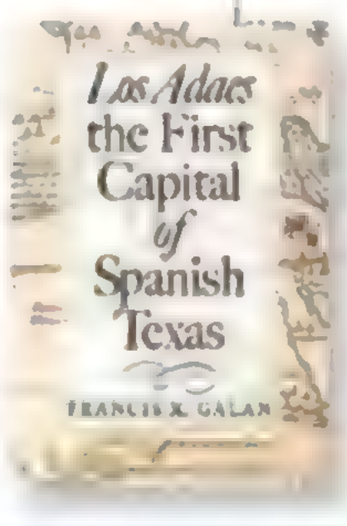
Browning's Classic Lever-Action

While much has been written about the various Winchester lever guns, comparatively little has covered the Model 1895—the last of the company's 19th-century classics. Finally, authors Rob Kassab and Brad Dunbar have done a yeoman's job in documenting the 1895's history in a 432-page, 8 ½-inch by 11-inch, hardcover leather bound volume, *Winchester Model 1895: Last of the Classic Lever Actions* (Buffalo Cove Publishing, $89.99 plus shipping). It will quickly prove to be the standard reference of this final John Browning-designed lever-action. With over 1,200 images, the book covers the genesis of the '95, production and factory records, including a serial number index and dates of manufacture, along with comprehensive accounts of the rifle's parts, cartridges and boxes, loading tools, elaborately finished arms and much more.

—Phil Spangenberger,
True West's *Firearms Editor*

Texas's First Capital

Francis X. Galan paints a vivid picture of the small Presidio of Los Adaes and the life of its detachment in far flung New Spain in *Los Adaes, the First Capital of Spanish Texas* (Texas A & M University Press, $45). The capital of colonial Texas, "a musket shot away" from Natchitoches, kept the French as trading partners, and the Indians pacified, through illegal commerce, fictive familial ties and military campaigns. Through his use of *residencias*/outgoing evaluations, Galan tells the sad but heroic story of three generations of "half-naked" soldiers used as laborers and forced to illegally trade arms, ammunition, bear lard, buffalo skins, cattle, etc., for the basics of life. In 1773, they were forced to march to the new capital, San Antonio, leaving everything behind. In the last chapter, Galan quickly brings the reader through the transfer of Louisiana to Spain and back again, the influx of Americans and the conflicts that ensued. The book adds to the literature on East Texas and is well worth reading.



—Salomé Hernández, author of
No Settlement Without Women: Three Spanish California Settlement Schemes, 1790-1800

Coal War Gunman

In his new book, *The Nine Lives of Charles E. Lively: The Deadliest Man in the West Virginia-Colorado Coal Mine Wars* (Fox Run Publishing, 2020, $19.95), Robert G. Yoho paints the portrait of Charles Lively, a complicated hitman who spent his career as a gun-for-hire union-buster who seems to have had little remorse for the men he killed, or the miners he betrayed in his undercover work in the coalfields of West Virginia and Colorado. This biography is a fascinating warts-and-all depiction of a man as dangerous as any of the better-known gunmen of the American West. *The Nine Lives of Charles E. Lively* is sure to appeal to anyone interested in the labor movement of the early 20th century, law enforcement and modern-day gunfighters.

—Samuel K. Dolan, author of
Cowboys and Gangsters: Stories of an Untamed Southwest

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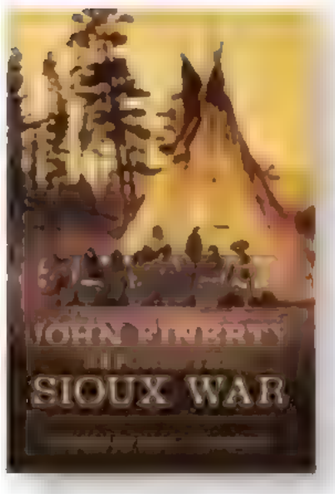
Eyewitness to the Sioux War

Chicago Times correspondent John Finerty (1846-1908) may be best known for his 1890 book *War-Path and Bivouac*, a classic in the historical literature of the American Indian Wars. The book detailed Gen. George Crook's campaign against the Sioux in 1876, but a new collection of documents collected by respected historian and retired National Park Service superintendent Paul L. Hedren is shedding new light on that campaign. *John Finerty Reports the Sioux War* (University of Oklahoma, $34.95) is a collection of previously unpublished correspondence by Finerty to his newspaper offering further details to his time in the field. Finerty's intimate accounts give keen insight into many of Crook's engagements, but also offers fascinating glimpses into gold rush life in the Black Hills.



—*Erik J. Wright, author of* West of Hell: The Badmen, Hardcases & Intrepid Lawmen Who Made the West Wild

IN TIME FOR THE HOLIDAYS, A WESTERN FOOD HISTORIAN SHARES HER FAVORITES

For more than 30 years, *True West*'s "Frontier Fare" columnist Sherry Monahan has been fascinated with the food and drinks enjoyed on the frontier. Her favorite school subjects were cooking, history and English, so it's no surprise she's writing about historical food. Food is something that everyone can relate to, and she feels that being able to taste history is better than just reading about it.

Here are five classic Western books on historic cooking, food and drink in the West that everyone should have in their library.

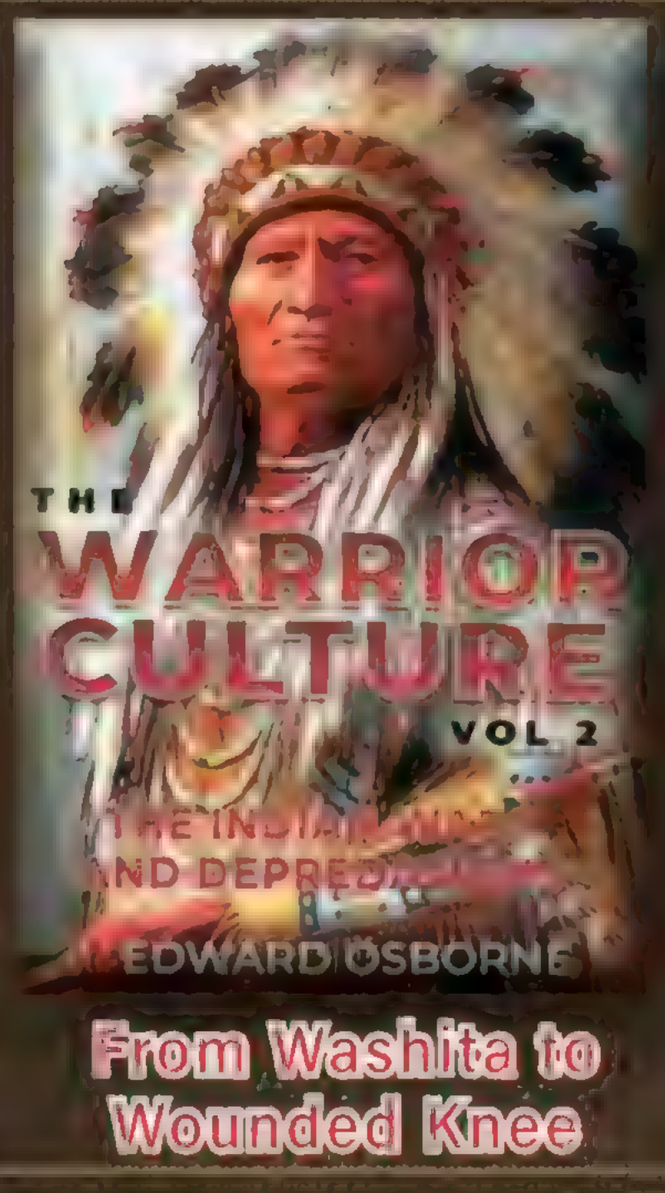
1. ***Appetite for America*** by Stephen Fried (Bantam): Fred Harvey's influence with the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe railroad was a game-changer for the restaurant business. His standards for staff, cooking and food can still be seen today. The book is filled with classic Harvey recipes.

2. ***The Physiology of Taste: Harder's Book of Practical American Cookery*** by Jules Arthur Harder (Gayley): In 1885, Harder was the *chef de cuisine* at the Palace Hotel in San Francisco when he published his cookbook filled with tips on herbs, techniques and classic recipes that were enjoyed by Western Victorians.

3. ***Jerry Thomas Bartenders Guide 1862 Reprint: How to Mix Drinks, or the Bon Vivant's Companion*** by Jerry Thomas (Chump Change): This classic is filled with valuable details about how to set up a bar, mixers, styles, recipes and more.

4. ***Cyclopedia of Valuable Receipts: A Treasure House of Useful Knowledge, for the Every-Day Wants of Life*** by Henry B. Scammell (Forgotten Books): Published in St. Louis in 1897, it contains details of medicine, farming, food and cookery recipes.

5. ***The Ford Treasury of Favorite Recipes from Famous Eating Places*** by Nancy Kennedy (Simon & Shuster): This booklet was published in 1950 and contains history and classic recipes from restaurants across America.



"Even more important than its expansion of battle history, Warrior Culture and the Indian Wars includes a focus on the lasting modern impacts of Custer's Last Stand and the battle of Wounded Knee..." "Osborne's observations and questions are thought-provoking..." "Authoritative, controversial, and steeped in footnoted references and scholarship, Warrior Culture: The Indian Wars is highly recommended for any college-level reader or western history enthusiast..."
- Diane Donovan, Midwest Book Review

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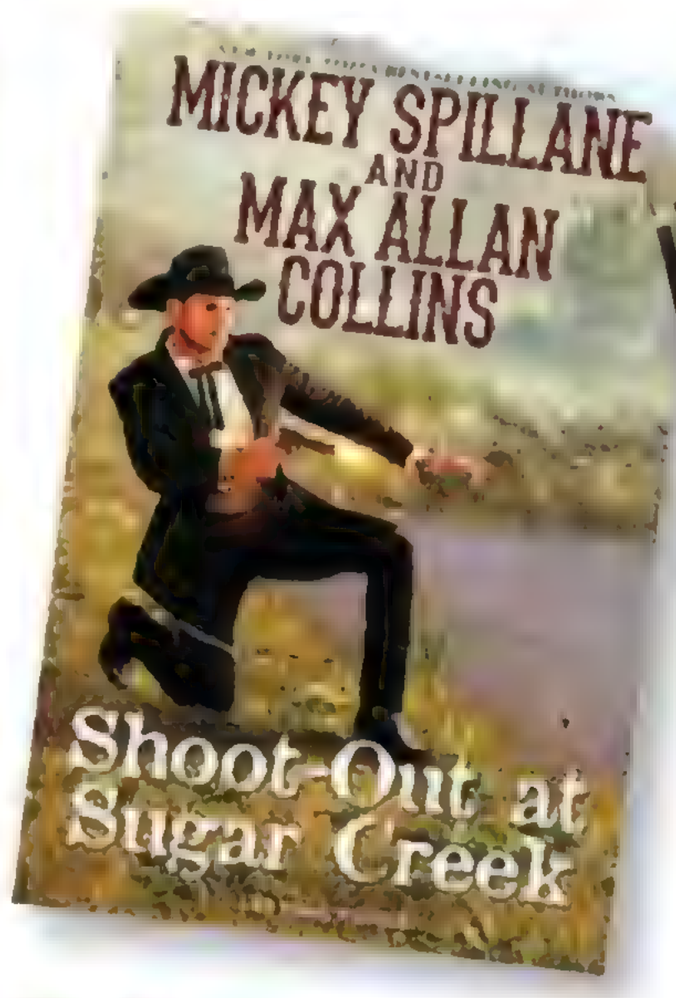
Our Past is Our Future

BY STUART ROSEBROOK

The View Ahead

End-of-the-year books and early 2021 releases promise great reading about the West.

In the last quarter of the year, publishers are busily touting end-of-the year books and next year's early releases. From advance copies I have received, I believe fans of Western history and fiction will be busy for the next few months buying and reading a bounty of offerings from publishers, small and large.

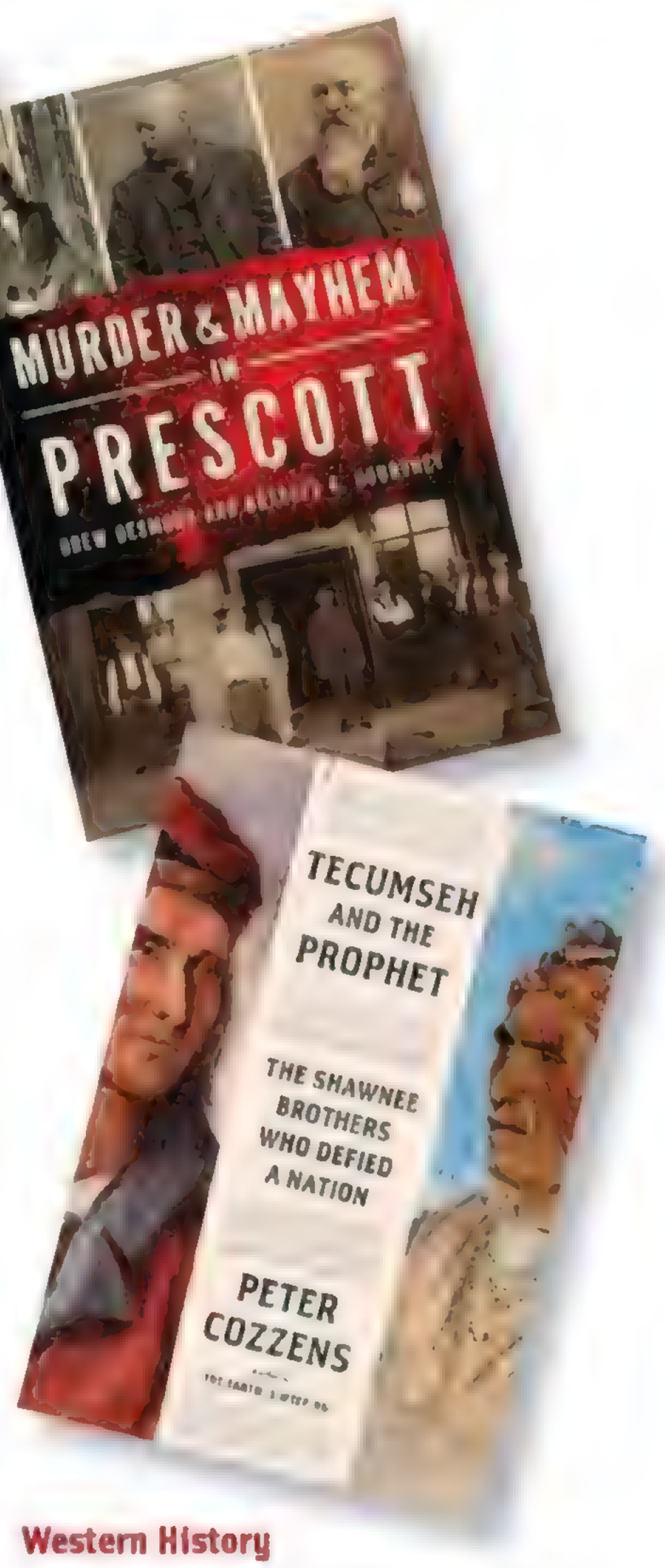


Western Novels

Old West fiction lovers might not have noticed many issues caused by COVID-19. But if their favorite author publishes with Five Star, they could have experienced a delay in buying the latest titles, as all of the company's Western books were delayed six months, beginning in May.

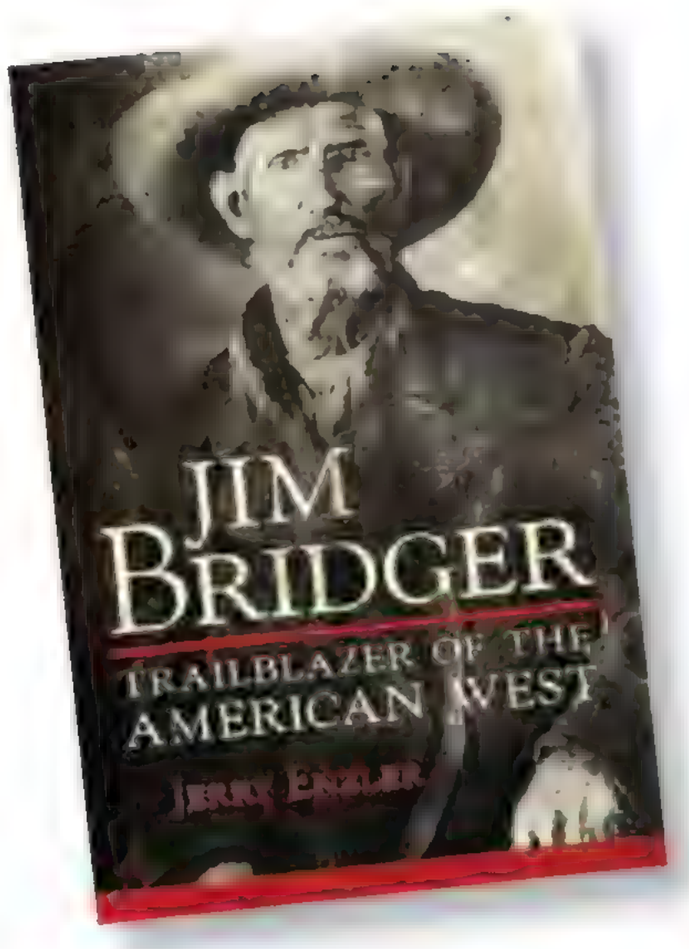
Kensington and Wolfpack continued to offer strong titles throughout the year. Books on my list to read from Kensington include *Shoot-out at Sugar Creek* by Mickey Spillane and Max Allan Collins and *The Dark Sunrise* by Terrance McCauley. From Wolfpack, I've got G. Wayne Tilman's *Guns for Wells Fargo* and Robert Vaughan's *The Crocketts: Western Saga One* in my sights.

I also recommend *Death at Lame Deer* by Forrest B. Dunning (Far Country Press), *Hardeman Lodge: A Novel* by W.W. McNeal (TCU Press) and *The Outlaw Wes Hardin* by Steppen Wirth (Sweetgrass).



Western History

Recently published Western history titles I recommend include *Firearms of the Texas Rangers: From the Frontier Era to the Modern Age* by Doug Dukes (UNT Press), *Murder & Mayhem in Prescott* by Drew Desmond and Bradley C. Courtney

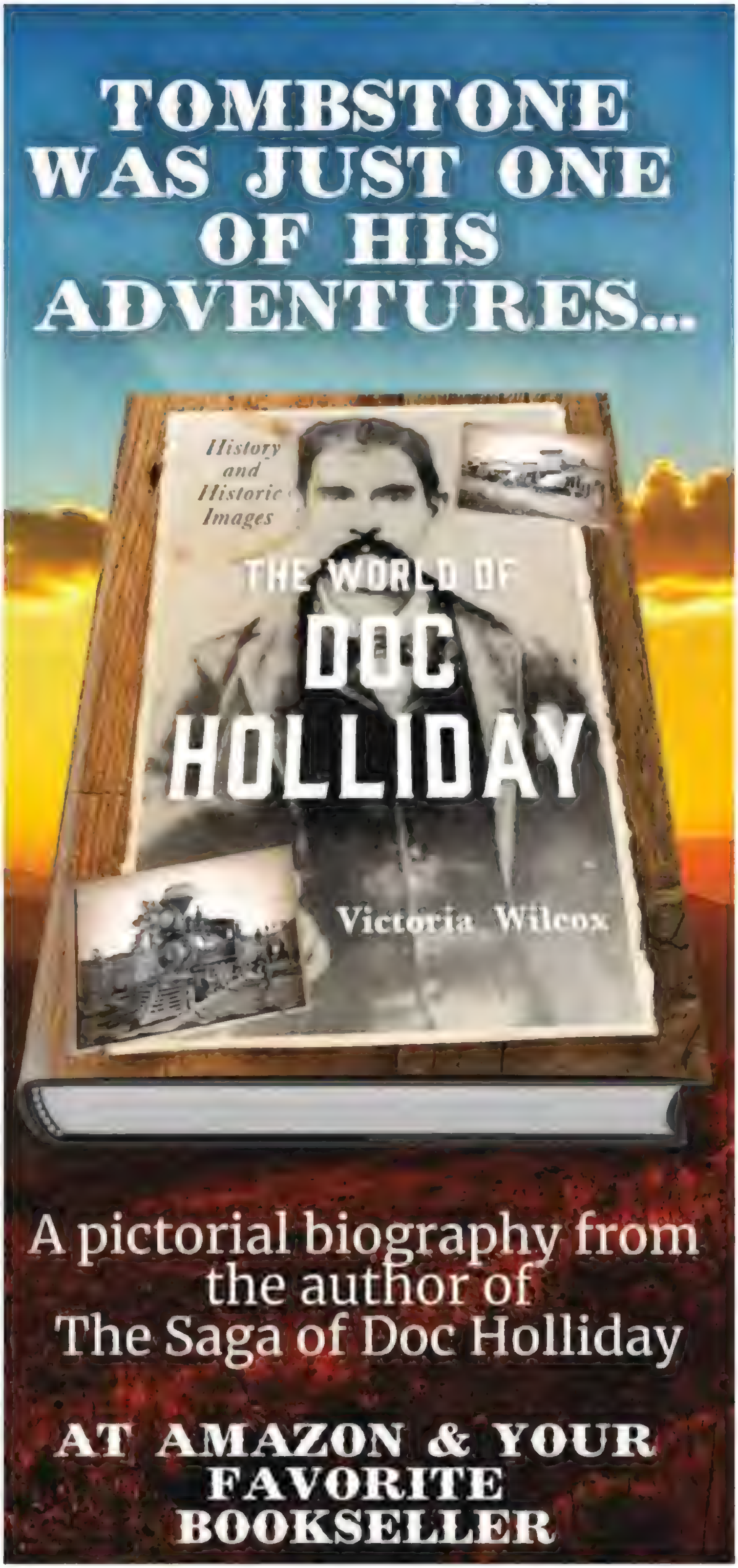


(History Press), *Never Caught Twice: Horse Stealing in Western Nebraska, 1850–1890* by Matthew S. Luckett (Nebraska) and *All Guns Fired at One Time* edited by Jerome A. Greene (South Dakota Historical Society). [See Greene's article "The Tragedy on Antelope Creek" on pp. 28-33.]

In biography, two frontier profiles are on my list: *Tecumseh and the Prophet: The Shawnee Brothers Who Defied a Nation* by Peter Cozzens (Knopf) and *Boone: An Unfinished Portrait* by Daniel Firth Griffith (Robinia), as are Western bios *The World of Doc Holliday: History and Historic Images* by Victoria Wilcox (TwoDot) and *Esteban Cantu and the Mexican Revolution in Baja California Norte, 1910-1920* by Joseph Richard Werne (TCU Press).

On the Horizon

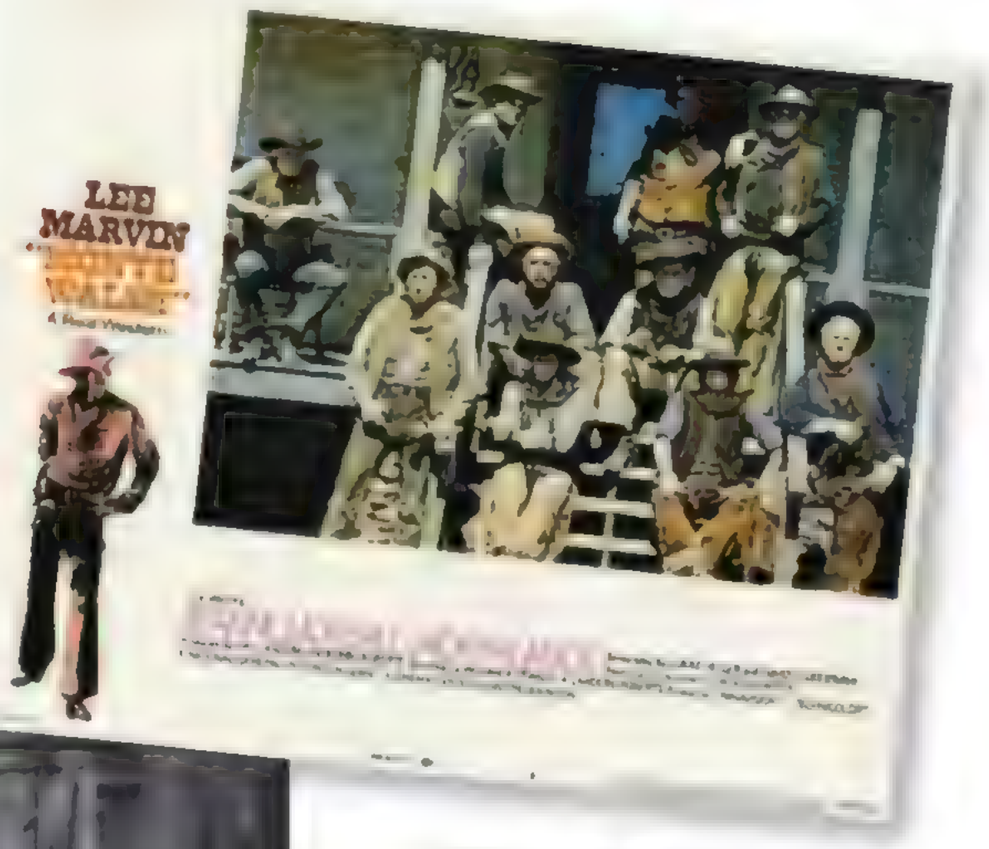
Looking ahead to 2021, I want to read Jerry Enzler's *Jim Bridger: Trailblazer of the American West* (Oklahoma), *On the Plains in '65: The 6th West Virginia Volunteer Cavalry in the West* by George Holliday, edited by Glenn V. Longacre (Ohio University), *Blood and Treasure: Daniel Boone and the Fight for America's First Frontier* by Bob Drury and Tom Clavin (St. Martin's Press), *The Hi Lo Country, 60th Anniversary Edition* by Max Evans with a Foreword by Johnny D. Boggs (New Mexico) and *The Gospel According to Billy the Kid: A Novel* by Dennis McCarthy (New Mexico). ✪



BY HENRY C. PARKE

The End of the Trail

Producer Bobby Roberts' Western ensemble Monte Walsh *remains a classic 50 years later.*



While a star vehicle for Lee Marvin, Jeanne Moreau and Jack Palance, the strength of the film adaptation of Jack Schaefer's multi-character novel *Monte Walsh* is the chemistry between the ensemble cast of actors, including Mitchell Ryan, Bo Hopkins and Jim Davis.

– ALL IMAGES COURTESY NATIONAL GENERAL PICTURES UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED –

Lee Marvin (far left) and Jack Palance (left) had made three movies together before *Monte Walsh*, but it was the iconic Western adaptation of Jack Schaefer's novel in which the two leading men had their greatest chemistry as aging cowboys Monte Walsh and Chet Rollins. Both men were also World War II veterans.

The film *Monte Walsh* turned 50 this year. Like so many fine Westerns of its time, it was about the end of the Western era, but unlike most, it wasn't about outlaws, like *The Wild Bunch*, or gunfighters, like *The Shootist*. It was about hardworking, honest cowboys, typified by Monte (Lee Marvin) and Chet (Jack Palance), whose world was disappearing before their eyes as ranches merged into vast tracts controlled by faceless syndicates, their assets to be stripped. Its relevance has only grown with the years.

Critic Roger Ebert gave it four stars, but cautioned, "This may be the first three-handkerchief Western." It is by turns uproarious, sweet, wistful, contemplative, exciting, tragic, and suspenseful. *Monte Walsh* got made because producer Bobby Roberts wanted to make a movie with his Malibu neighbor Lee Marvin, asked Marvin's girlfriend Michelle Triola for a suggestion, and she said *Monte Walsh*.

The rambling *Monte Walsh* novel was not the obvious Hollywood home run that author Jack Schaefer's tight and taut *Shane* had been. It's more a collection of character sketches than a story, and screenwriters Lucas Heller and David Zelag Goodman surgically isolated the best vignettes to create a plot.

Marvin, a decorated World Wat II Marine, a star "heavy" since 1962's *The Man Who*

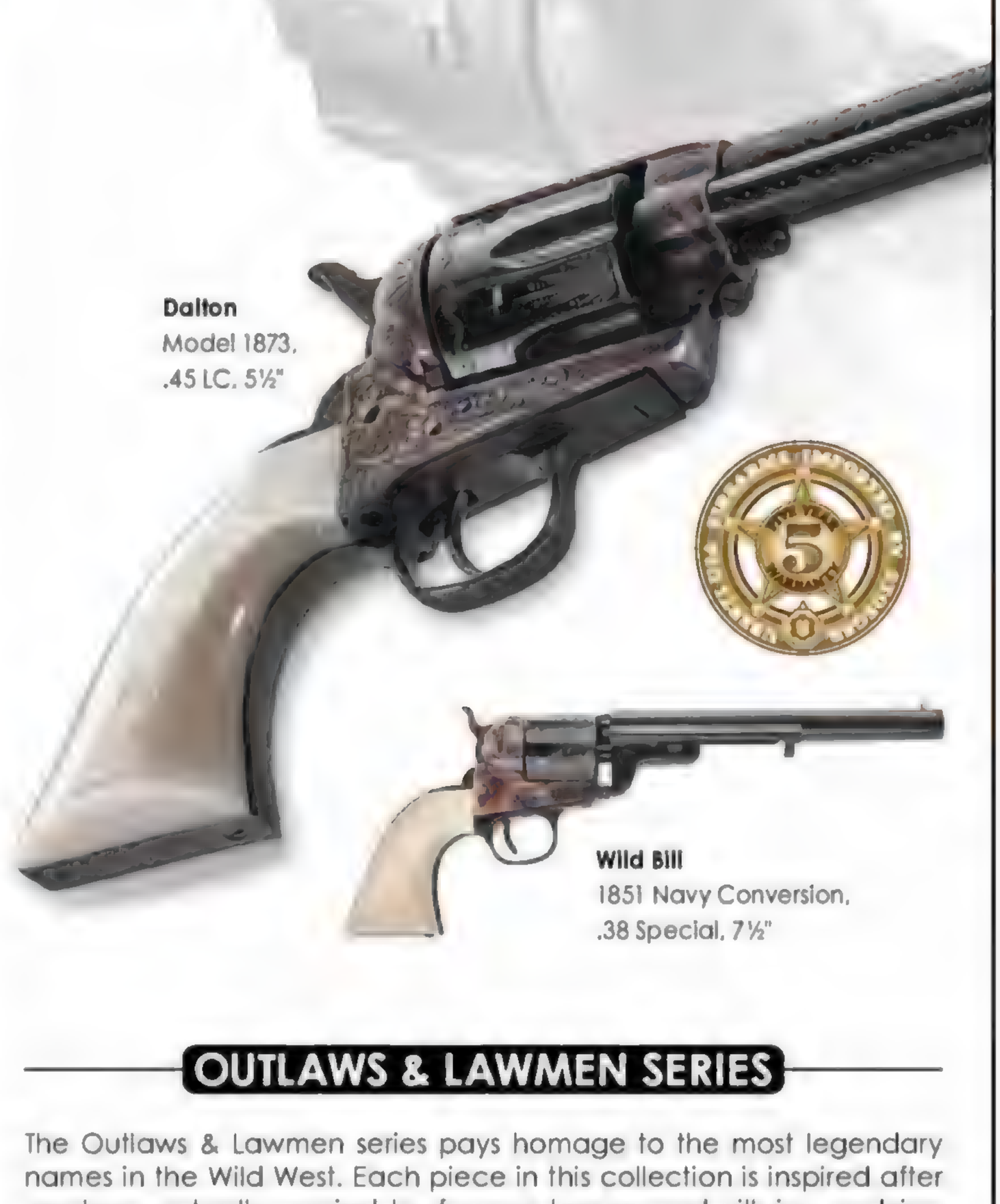
Released 50 years ago in October 1970, *Monte Walsh* was filmed entirely on location in Arizona. Producers Bobby Roberts and Hal Landers hired well-known cinematographer William A. Fraker to direct screenwriters Lukas Heller and David Z. Goodman's adaptation of Jack Schaefer's fictional chronicle of cowboys and cattle ranching at the end of the open-range cattle days.

Shot Liberty Valance, became a leading man with his Oscar-winning comedy performance in 1965's *Cat Ballou*.

William Fraker was a great cameraman with deep Western roots—he'd started as assistant cameraman on *The Lone Ranger*—but he was directing for the first time. Cinematographer David Walsh was promoted from camera operator; his photography was often heartbreakingly beautiful. Palance was a great villain but was daringly cast as a nice guy. Mitch Ryan, best known for the vampire soap opera *Dark Shadows*, was cast as Shorty, who goes to the dark side when his horse-breaking job is eliminated. "Jack [Palance] and I talked about the complexities of Shorty," Ryan recalls, "about how much of a challenge both our parts were, because his was a very sweet, shy kind of a guy. He said it was much more complicated than it looks like."

The film's cast was a perfect mix of seasoned hands like growling Jim Davis as the Slash-Y range manager and youngster cowhand Bo Hopkins, fresh from *The Wild Bunch*. "I was thrilled to death, even though it was a small part, just to work with Lee and Jack Palance," recalls Hopkins.

BECOME PART OF THE LEGEND



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Model 1873,
.45 LC, 5½"

Wild Bill
1851 Navy Conversion,
.38 Special, 7½"

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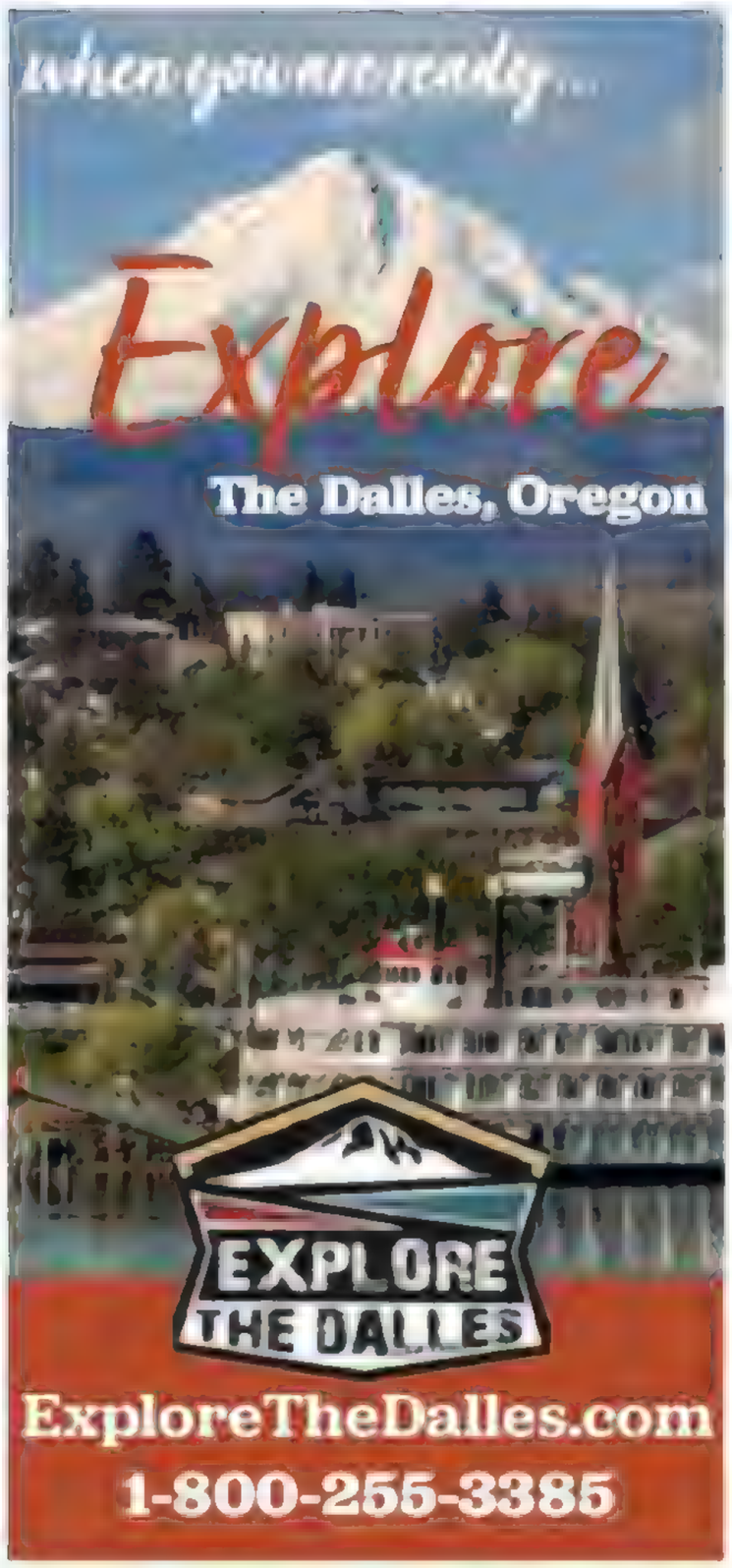
HISTORY REPEATS ITSELF



At Lee Marvin's urging, French cinema star Jeanne Moreau agreed to be his co-star in *Monte Walsh* and play the prostitute and love-interest, Martine Bernard. Their mutual admiration blossomed on and off the set into a screen romance, which makes their scenes some of the best—and most believable—of the film.

Perhaps the finest stroke of casting was international film star Jeanne Moreau in her only American film appearance; she's luminous as Martine, the prostitute who loves Monte.

Memorable set pieces include a mustang drive and a familiar bunkhouse brawl, made special with touches like the cowpoke removing his dentures before joining in. The most copied is the sequence in which the cowboys, unable to enjoy the cook's good food because of his foul odor, drag him to a water tank and scrub him, followed by his revenge.

The film succeeds largely on Marvin's portrayal of Monte, and his behind-the-scenes involvement. "He was a meticulous actor, down to the barbwire cuts on his arm, things that make a performance marvelous," Ryan remembers. "He helped me pick my wardrobe."

The wonderfully weaselly Matt Clark, as a cowhand and occasional bank robber who leads Shorty astray, recalls, "Lee said, 'I'm gonna tell you a secret. I do half of my performance in the wardrobe fitting.'"

When Chet quits cowboying and marries The Hardware Widow, Monte begins to rethink his own future. He asks Martine why they never married. "Because you never asked me." He asks her then, and although she says an immediate yes, it turns out to be too late to make it work.

A saloon scene in which a lawman draws on Clark while he's with Billy Green Bush and Ryan, leading to Ryan killing him, was simple on the page but a logistical nightmare. Clark remembers riding to the set with the other actors and "Lee is drunker than Cooter Brown. I said, 'This doesn't make sense. I'm not going to pull a gun when he's standing there with a gun on us!'

Producer Bobby Roberts (left), a close friend of *Monte Walsh*'s star Lee Marvin (right), took a very personal role in the 1970 production of Jack Schaefer's classic novel *Monte Walsh* and brought his whole family on location to Tucson, Arizona, where the film was made at Old Tucson Studios and on location across Southern Arizona.

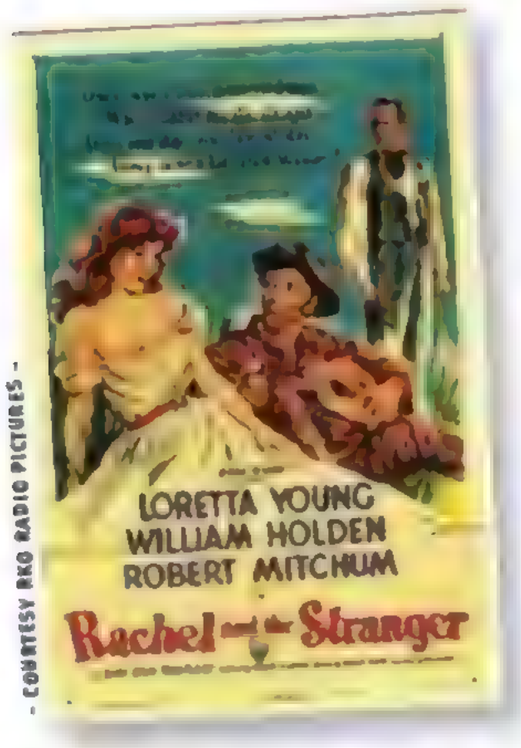
– COURTESY TODD ROBERTS FAMILY COLLECTION –

So Lee said, 'What if you have your arm on the bar…'" And Marvin choreographed the scene, positioning the three outlaws so that Bush could slip a gun to Clark that the lawman couldn't see. "If Lee'd been interested in anything other than catching blue Marlin and drinking, he could have been one of the best directors going."

Fraker went on to direct the infamous *Legend of the Lone Ranger* but redeemed himself when he returned to cinematography for *Tombstone*. Palance would win his Oscar 22 years later, like Marvin did, for a comedy, *City Slickers*. Marvin would go on to many more great performances, but *Monte Walsh* would be the last straw with him and Michelle Triola, who sued the producers, claiming partial ownership of the film. She also sued Marvin and lost both cases but introduced the word *palimony* to the English language.

BLU-RAY REVIEW

RACHEL AND THE STRANGER



(R.K.O.—Warner Archives, $21.99) Loretta Young is Rachel, the bonded servant woman whom recently widowed William Holden buys—and marries for propriety. But he and his son treat her like a servant until backwoods-but-charming Robert Mitchum comes along and makes them realize what they're in danger of losing. Norman Foster's direction is elegant, Waldo Salt's screenplay is full of clever charm, there's a terrifying Shawnee attack and cabin-burning scene, and Mitchum sings six songs! Great entertainment. ★

Henry C. Parke, Western Films Editor for *True West*, is a screenwriter, and blogs at *HenrysWesternRoundup.blogspot.com*. His book of interviews, *Indians and Cowboys*, will be published in 2021.

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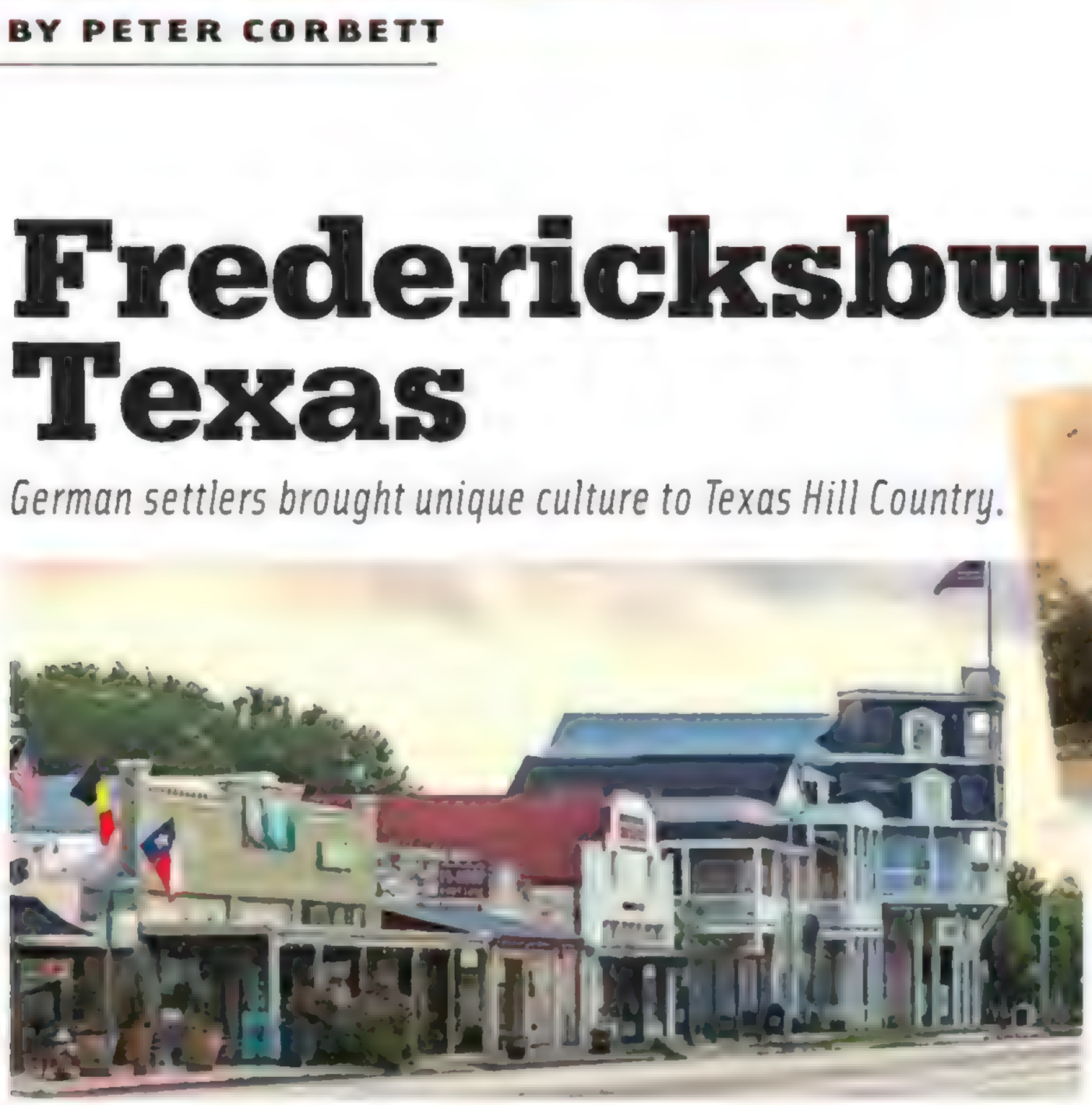
BY PETER CORBETT

Fredericksburg, Texas

German settlers brought unique culture to Texas Hill Country.



World War II's Pacific Theater naval leader Adm. Chester Nimitz was born and raised in Fredericksburg, Texas, where his family had operated the Nimitz Hotel since the 1850s. In 1964, it was repurposed and dedicated as the Admiral Nimitz Museum and National Museum of the Pacific War.

– ALL PHOTOS OF FREDERICKSBURG BY PIERCE INGRAM, COURTESY TRAVEL TEXAS UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED/HISTORIC NIMITZ HOTEL COURTESY DEGOLYER LIBRARY, SOUTHERN METHODIST UNIVERSITY –

In the early 1850s, Texas settlers built a wagon road linking San Antonio to Fredericksburg on a route west of the ancient Pinta Trail.

Now an interstate covers much of the 70 miles between the two towns, bringing weekend visitors to Fredericksburg, a hospitality hub of what's known as Texas Hill Country.

Texans from all over the Lone Star State—most notably Houston, Dallas and nearby Austin—converge on Fredericksburg to visit the area's wineries, museums, shops, dance halls and to sample local cuisine. That includes Texas barbecue, spicy Tex-Mex dishes and German schnitzels, *gulasch* and sauerbraten, a sweet and sour marinated roast beef.

And Gillespie County peaches, sold at roadside stands, are a summer treat.

Most wine grapes are grown in the dryer terrain of Lubbock, but the wineries have clustered in Hill Country, which has long been a tourist destination, said Sean Doerre, Fredericksburg tourism bureau spokesman.

"We've gone from four to five wineries 15 to 20 years ago to more than 50 now," he said. "It's a booming, booming business."

Fredericksburg is one of the Hill Country towns settled by German immigrants lured to Texas in the mid-19th century with promises of land grants and opportunity. Others are New Braunfels and Victoria. Between 1844-47, about 7,000 German immigrants settled here.

Fredericksburg will mark its 175th anniversary in 2021 with a year of celebrations starting in May.

Sadly, the town's 40th anniversary Oktoberfest was canceled due to COVID-19 restrictions. The town's Bavarian blowout is expected to return next fall with German beer, brats and polka bands in lederhosen and cowboy boots.

The chain migration of Germans to Texas was led by a group of 21 German counts, princes and barons who called themselves the *Adelsverein* or Nobility Society. One of their leaders was John O. Meusebach, who brought 120 immigrants to what became Fredericksburg on May 8, 1846, said Evelyn Weinheimer, Pioneer Museum archivist.

German settlers were given a town lot in Fredericksburg and 10 acres to farm outside of town, she said. Families built small dwellings, known as Sunday Houses, they stayed in on weekends to attend church. The Weber Sunday House is among the historic structures on the museum grounds.

Another Fredericksburg attraction is the National Museum of the Pacific War. It might seem out of place in Texas except that Adm. Chester Nimitz, commander of the U.S. Pacific Fleet in World War II, was born in Fredericksburg in 1885.

The museum hosts re-enactments with flamethrowers, simulated grenade explosions and machine-gun fire, along with a show of tanks and amphibious landing craft.

"It puts you right in the middle of the action of what it was like," Doerr said.

Political history buffs can visit the Lyndon B. Johnson State Park and the adjacent LBJ National Historical Site. The state park in nearby Stonewall includes the LBJ Ranch. The National Historical Site features his childhood home.

As a boy, Johnson attended Williams Creek School, built in 1897, in the tiny hamlet of Albert. It's also home to the Albert Icehouse & Dancehall that opened in 1922. German brass bands played in Albert and rotated to other area dance halls in Hye, Weinheimer and Luckenbach, about 10 miles southeast of Fredericksburg.

Of course Luckenbach became famous a half century later for outlaw country music when Jerry Jeff Walker and the Lost Gonzo Band recorded a live album—*Viva Terlinqua*—at the Luckenbach dance hall. Waylon Jennings and Willie Nelson added to Luckenbach's musical mystique in 1977 with the country hit "Luckenbach, Texas (Back to the Basics of Love)."

Luckenbach still has its dance hall, bar and a general store with live music every day of the year except at Christmas, Doerr said.

"They have a picker's circle under the oak trees behind the barn" for musicians who drop in for jam sessions, he added.

The musical heritage goes back to the Hill Country's German settlers, Weinheimer said.

"The German farmers worked hard in their fields, but they loved their singing and dancing at night."

Peter Corbett moved West to Flagstaff in 1974 to attend Northern Arizona University, where he studied English and American Studies. He's been exploring Arizona and the West since then and had a 35-year career in Arizona journalism.

WHERE HISTORY MEETS THE HIGHWAY

The *Vereins Kirche*, or Society Church, was built in Fredericksburg's city center in 1847. Today, rebuilt in stone from the half-timbered local *Fachwerk*, it is home to the Pioneer Museum.

To plan your trip, visit the Fredericksburg Visitor Information Center, 302 E. Austin St., or go online to ***VisitFredericksburgTX.com***.

TAKE A HIKE ON A GRANITE DOME

See the Texas Hill Country from atop a 425-foot granite dome at Enchanted Rock State Natural Area. ***TPWD.Texas.gov***

HOW GERMAN SETTLERS TAMED TEXAS

Learn about the homesteads and Sunday Houses of Germans who settled Fredericksburg at the Pioneer Museum, 325 W. Main St. ***PioneerMuseum.net***

SAY JA TO GERMAN BEER

Forget Lone Star beer. Sip on a stein of German lager or kolsch at the Alstadt Brewery, 6120 U.S. Highway 290 East, Fredericksburg. ***AlstadtBeer.com***

LET'S GO TO LUCKENBACH, TEXAS

Jerry Jeff Walker, Waylon Jennings and Willie Nelson put Luckenbach on the map in the 1970s and the Texas music scene is still going strong here. ***LuckenbachTexas.com***

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BY STUART ROSEBROOK

Go West!

Travel back in time on America's historic Western trails and discover where history happened during the building of a nation.

On Christmas Eve, December 24, 1805, Lewis and Clark's Corps of Discovery settled into Fort Clatsop. They would spend their final winter encampment a few short miles from the Pacific Ocean and the mouth of the Columbia River before returning east to St. Louis in late March 1806. The Corps' extraordinary survey of the West changed the course of history for the youthful United States of America and was an inspiration to Western trailblazers who followed their example the rest of the century.

Today, 215 years after the Corps' historic encampment at Fort Clatsop, the Western United States remains an international destination for exploration. Visitors come from around the world to journey deep into its wild places, explore its wide open spaces and follow historic trails, scenic byways and back-country hiking trails to discover for themselves the history, people and places that define the West.

Fortunately for Western travelers, the National Park Service and multiple public and private agencies, trail associations and individuals have worked hard for more than a century to mark, honor and interpret the great historic trails of the West. Many, including the Lewis and Clark, Santa Fe, Oregon, California, Mormon Pioneer and Pony Express, have been designated by Congress as National Historic Trails. Others, such as the Chisholm, Western, Goodnight-Loving and Butterfield Overland trails, have been nominated or are in the process of being nominated for National Historic Trail designation. In addition, federal and state governments have developed scenic byway systems that guide travelers through and to some of the wildest and historically most interesting places in the West.

In the spirit of Lewis and Clark's Corps of Discovery, *True West*'s editors hope that the following historic trails—and the wonderful towns, sites and places ready to be enjoyed along their routes—will inspire years of adventures of discovery across the West. As Meriwether Lewis recounted over two centuries ago, "As we passed on, it seemed those scenes of visionary enchantment would never have an end."

TRUE WEST
ULTIMATE HISTORIC TRAVEL GUIDE

Scotts Bluff National Monument in Scottsbluff, Nebraska, interprets and preserves the natural landmark as an important site along the Oregon, California, Mormon Pioneer and Pony Express National Historic trails.

– COURTESY NEBRASKA TOURISM –

The Lewis and Clark Trail

The Corps of Discovery crossed the Bitteroot Mountains in September of 1805. Nez Perce guide Old Toby led them over the Lolo Trail. As they traveled, they passed the landmark, Indian Post Office.

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LEWIS AND CLARK NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL

Headquarters and Visitor Center
601 Riverfront Drive
Omaha, NE 68102
402-661-1804
NPS.gov and ***LewisAndClark.Travel***

On December 8, 1805, Meriwether Lewis and WIlliam Clark's Corps of Discovery settled into their chosen winter campsite nestled in the woods a few miles southwest of the mouth of the Columbia River in northwest Oregon. The Corps had been on their expedition across the United States' newly acquired Louisiana Purchase since May 14, 1804, when they left Camp Dubois near Wood River, Illinois. It took them over three weeks to finish their rough-hewn log encampment they named Fort Clatsop in honor of the local Indians. While the winter was long, wet and tedious, the Corps survived the inhospitable conditions and overcame illness and tedium to begin the return trip east to St. Louis, in late March. Upon their return on September 23, 1806, over two and a half years after their departure, Lewis and Clark's Corps of Discovery had achieved the longest and greatest American survey of the North American continent to date. Their expedition forever changed the fate and direction of the fledgling nation, a constitutional republic just since 1789.

The Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail, at 4,900 miles, is second only to the California National Historic Trail in length. Expanded in 2019 to include the Corps' organizational origins in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and the route down the Ohio and Mississippi rivers to its starting point at Camp Dubois, the Lewis and Clark is one of the grandest of American road trips. For many heritage travelers, the opportunity to follow the trail of Meriwether Lewis, William Clark and their Corps of Discovery from the shores of the Pacific in Oregon to the banks of the Missouri and Mississippi rivers in Missouri is a dream come true, even if it has to be done over a few years, rather than all at once. Between Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and Seaside, Oregon, the traveler can follow various east or west routes of the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail for as many days and miles as can be afforded. Fortunately, there is no shortage of historic sites, natural wonders and towns—big and small—ready to accommodate travelers along the trail of the Corps of Discovery.

The Mandan and Hidatsa village where Lewis and Clark's Corps of Discovery wintered in 1804–05 has been reconstructed at Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site near Bismarck, North Dakota.

Lemhi Shoshone Sacagawea's leadership and negotiations with Indian tribes encountered by Meriwether Lewis (left) and William Clark (center) during the Corps of Discovery mission is commemorated in a painting of them at Three Forks exhibited at the Montana House of Representatives.

– TRUE WEST ARCHIVES –

Highlights of the Trail

The national trail aficionado will appreciate that the Lewis and Clark NHT also crosses portions of the Oregon, Pony Express, Santa Fe and Nez Perce Trails, as well as countless scenic byways. The National Park Service's National Historic Trail Center is an excellent place to start a tour of the Corps' route to the mouth of the Columbia, or visit one of dozens of Lewis and Clark sites between Omaha, Nebraska, and Seaside, Oregon, to plan your route.

The best route planner for your trip is the National Parks' "Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail" "site (*NPS.gov*), but do not overlook the importance of the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation (*LewisAndClark.org*) for the latest information on events occurring in communities along the trail.

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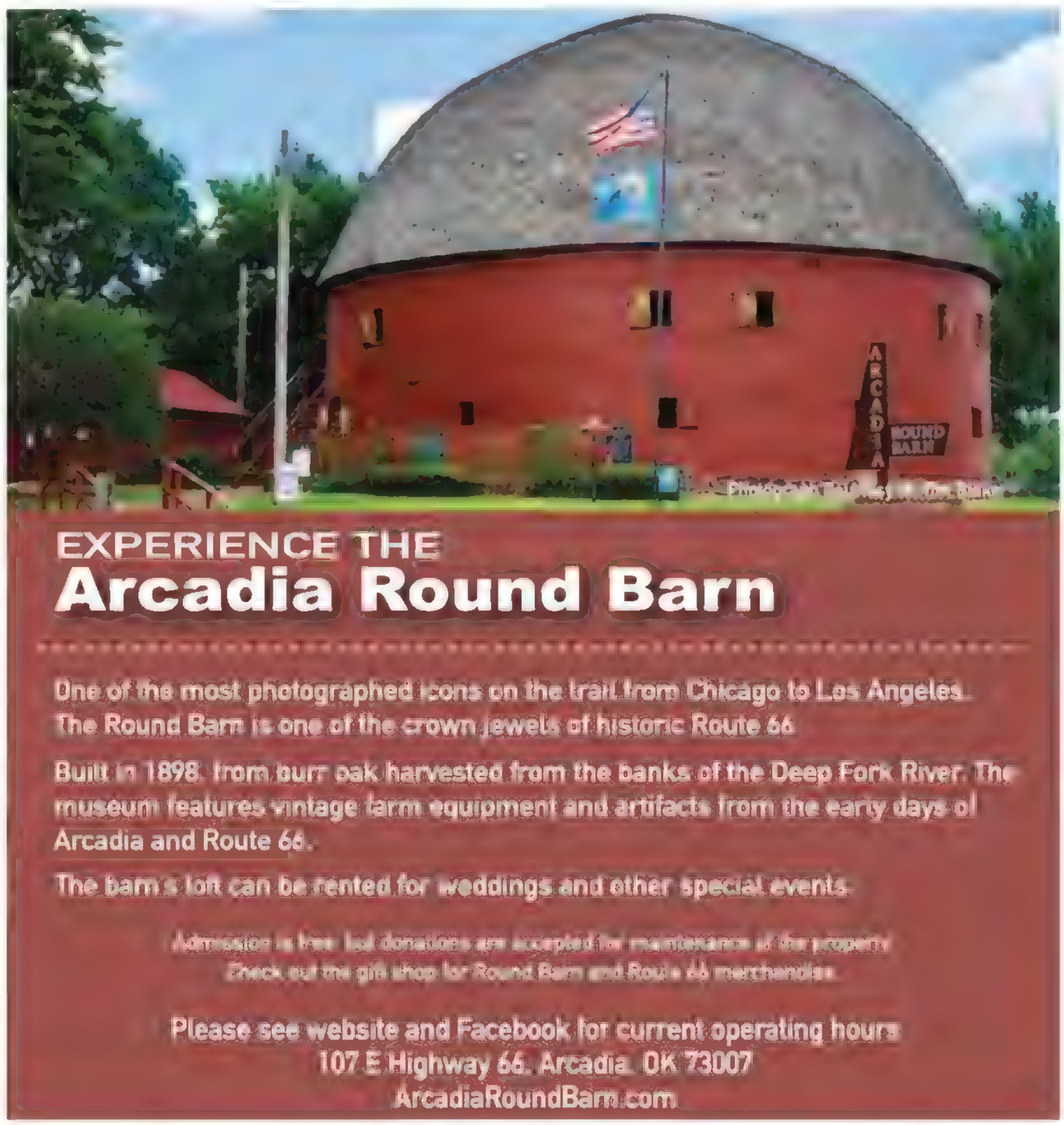
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Ten Places to Visit

ON THE LEWIS AND CLARK TRAIL

1. Lewis and Clark State Historic Site, Hartford, IL
The park is a living history center with a visitor center and reconstructed Camp Dubois.

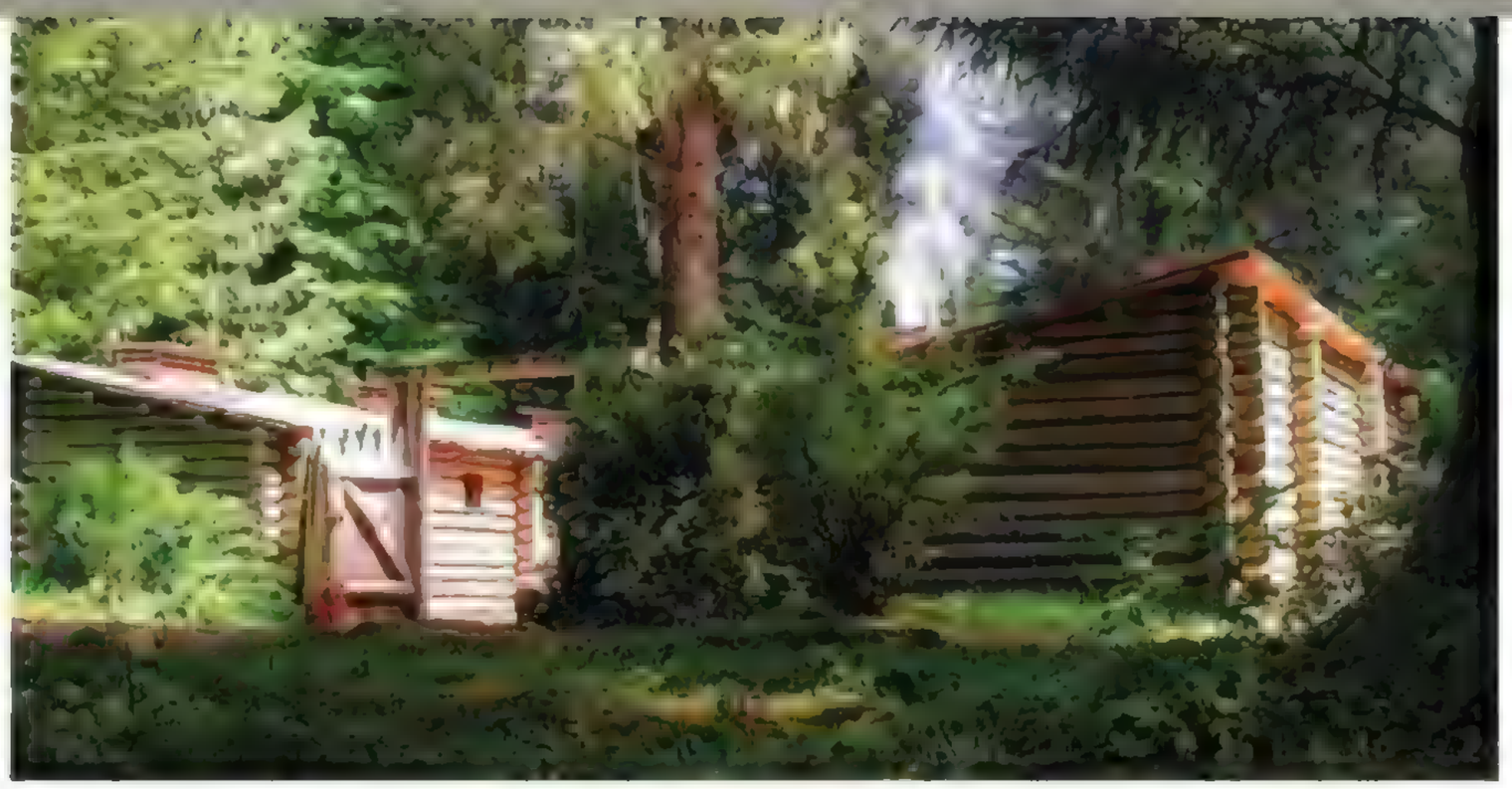
2. Gateway Arch National Park, St. Louis, MO
Don't miss a tour of the new interactive museum at one of our nation's newest national parks.

3. Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail Center, Omaha, NE
The Lewis and Clark Trail headquarters serves as the starting point of many travelers' journey of discovery in the footsteps of the Corps of Discovery.

4. Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center, Sioux City, IA
This significant stop on any Lewis and Clark tour along the Missouri River includes the memorial to Sgt. Charles Floyd, the only member of the Corps to die on the expedition.

5. Lewis and Clark Visitor Center, Yankton, SD
Actually located on the Nebraska side of the Missouri River overlooking Lewis and Clark Lake, the center's exhibitions tell the story of the Corps, the local tribes and the river.

Discover the history of America's expansion westward after the Louisiana Purchase at the Gateway National Park Museum in St. Louis.



The Corps of Discovery's 1805-06 winter encampment, Fort Clatsop, has been reconstructed as a living history site at the Lewis and Clark National Historic Park near Seaside, Oregon.

TRUE WEST
ULTIMATE HISTORIC TRAVEL GUIDE

6. *Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center, Washburn, ND*

Near the site where the Corps wintered with the Mandan and Hidatsa people in 1804-05, the center includes a museum, a reconstructed Fort Mandan Village and offers living history programs.

7. *Pompey's Pillar National Monument, Pompey's Pillar, MT*

Twenty-five miles east of Billings, the national monument with an interpretive visitor center protects Capt. William Clark's signature on a sandstone pillar.

8. *The Lewis and Clark Back Country Byway and Adventure Road, Tendoy, ID*

The 36-mile loop on a single-lane gravel road takes the traveler on a true adventure into the Salmon-Challis National Forest backcountry to the Lehmi Pass National Monument, where the Corps crossed the Continental Divide from Montana into Idaho.

9. *Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center, Ilwaco, WA*

High atop Cape Disappointment State Park overlooking the Pacific Ocean, the two-story museum has extensive exhibits on the Corps, their journey to the Pacific and the history of the coastal area of southwestern Washington.

10. *Fort Clatsop Lewis and Clark National Historical Park, Seaside, OR*

The reconstructed Fort Clatsop, where the Corps of Discovery spent their winter of 1805-06, is the centerpiece of the park and offers annual living history events with re-enactors.

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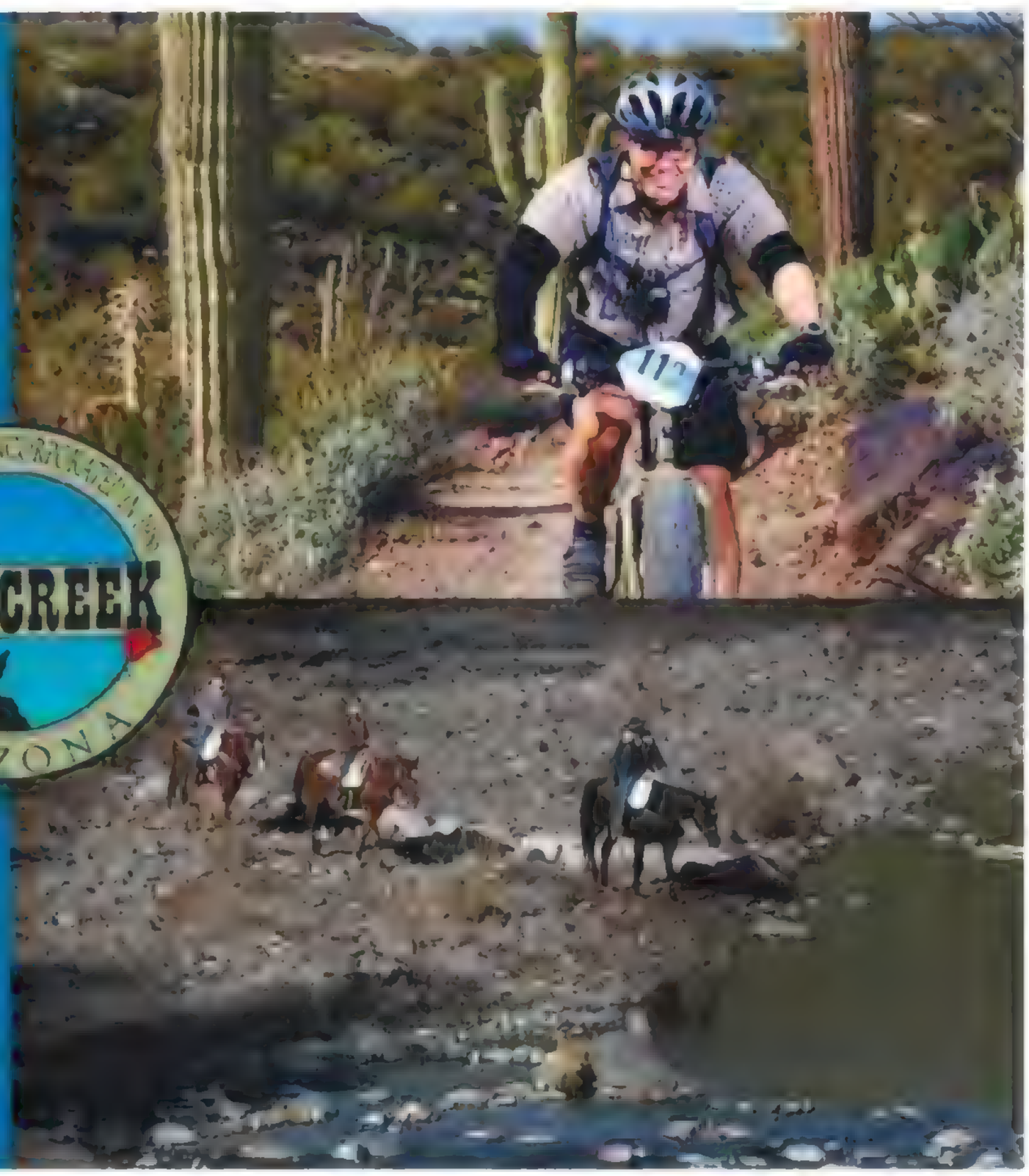

The Santa Fe Trail

After the start of the Santa Fe Trail in 1821, the arrival of the trade goods–laden wagon trains were celebrated by Santa Fe's residents who were eager to trade with the Americans. The famous wagon trains are commemorated in bronze near the city's plaza.

– SANTA FE TRAIL STATUE PHOTO COURTESY NPS.GOV/CARAVAN ILLUSTRATION COURTESY BEINECKE LIBRARY, YALE UNIVERSITY –

The bicentennial of the Santa Fe Trail will be commemorated in 2021, and a tour of the National Frontier Trails Museum is a great place to start a tour of the storied trail.

– COURTESY MISSOURI DEPT. OF TOURISM –

SANTA FE NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL

National Trails
PO Box 728
Santa Fe, NM 87504
505-988-6098
NPS.gov/SantaFeTrail.org

In 2021, the bicentennial of the Santa Fe Trail will be commemorated from Independence, Missouri, to Santa Fe, New Mexico. The famous trade route, first used in 1821 when Missouri Trader William Becknell seized upon the opportunity to open trade with newly independent Mexico, which had just won its independence from Spain. Prior to Becknell, American traders who attempted to open trade with the Spanish state of Neuvo Mexico were arrested and taken to Mexico City. Within a few short years, the Santa Fe Trail became one of the continent's most important routes of commerce, connecting world trade routes from Mexico City to New York City and New Orleans. The route between the eastern marketplaces and the inland port of St. Louis made it a key commercial, civilian and military route until 1880, when the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad usurped its importance.

In New Mexico, the Santa Fe National Historic Trail connects with the El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro National Historic Trail, the northernmost segment of Spain's 1,200-mile royal highway from Mexico City.

Discover the history of the Raton Pass, the Santa Fe Trail mountain route and southeastern Colorado at the Trinidad History Museum's Santa Fe Trail Museum, 1870s adobe Baca House, 1882 Victorian-style Bloom Mansion (above) and the new "Borderlands of Southern Colorado" exhibit.

– COURTESY CAROL M. HIGHSMITH ARCHIVE, LIBRARY OF CONGRESS –

Highlights of the Trail

Driving the network of US and state highways from Missouri west to New Mexico (or vice versa) will provide the traveler with a wondrous sense of the endless horizon that the pioneers and freighters faced as they traveled across the Great Plains on the Santa Fe Trail. A round trip can include both the mountain branch through Colorado to Bent's Fort National Historic Site and Trinidad, south through Raton Pass, or southwest through Dodge City, Kansas, on the Cimarron cutoff across the plains of western Kansas, Oklahoma and New Mexico. Both routes lead to Fort Union National Monument, an important way station en route to Santa Fe.

The best route planner for your trip is the National Parks' "Santa Fe National Historic Trail" site (*NPS.gov*), but do not overlook the importance of the Santa Fe Trail Association (*SantaFeTrail.org*) for the latest information on events occurring in communities along the trail.

At the time it was built, the Last Chance Store in Council Grove, Kansas, was so named because it was the last place for hundreds of miles to provision before heading West on the Santa Fe Trail. The historic site is currently undergoing a major archaeological preservation and study project.

– COURTESY KANSAS TOURISM –

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THE WEST *is Just the Beginning*

When you think Dodge City, you probably think of Wyatt Earp and Doc Holliday. Shootouts and Saloons. The general stores to wide open spaces to explore. In Dodge City, Kansas, the legend of the old west still lives on, partnered with the new west just waiting to be discovered. From the Longhorn Cattle Drive to the Long Branch Saloon to the Long Branch Lagoon Water Park, the days in Dodge City are long on fun.

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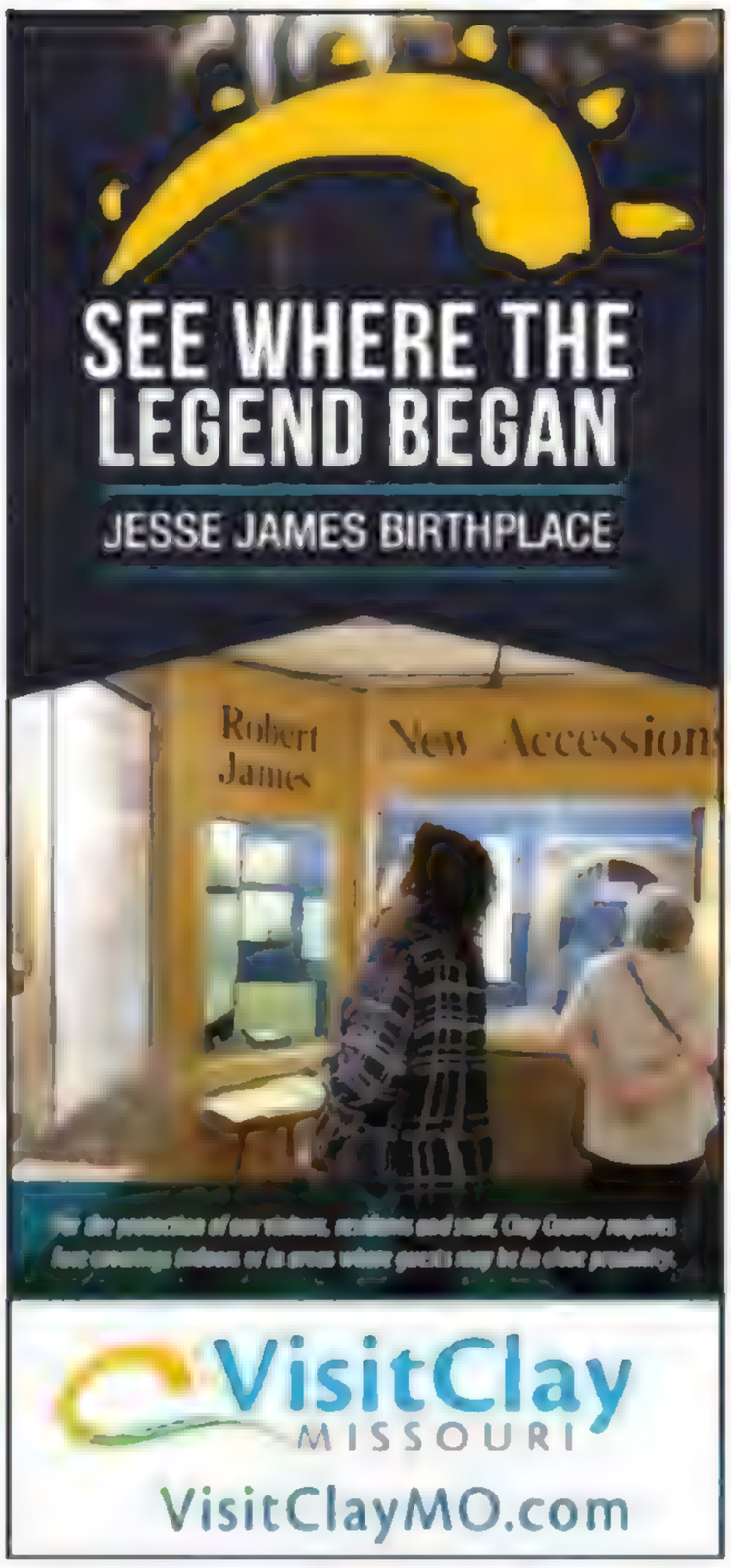

In 1833, Charles and William Bent, with partner Ceran St. Vrain, audaciously opened their trading post and fort on the north bank of the Arkansas River in the heart of Indian country as a key waystop on the Santa Fe Trail. The old fort was reconstructed in 1976 as a national historic site and living history center.

– COURTESY CAROL M. HIGHSMITH ARCHIVE, LIBRARY OF CONGRESS –

Ten Places to Visit ON THE SANTA FE TRAIL

1. ***National Frontier Trails Museum, Independence, MO***
Visitors to the museum in the city's historic district will discover a great introduction to the Santa Fe Trail, as well as the other national trails that started in western Missouri.

2. ***Historic Council Grove, Council Grove, KS***
An important crossroads of the Santa Fe Trail, according to the National Park Service, there are 10 significant sites associated with the trail in Council Grove, including the Neosho Crossing, Council Oak, Hays House and Kaw Mission State Historic Park.

3. ***Santa Fe Trail Center & Museum, Larned, KS***
In the same town as historic frontier Fort Larned National Historic Site, the Santa Fe Trail Center & Museum's exhibits tell the story of the trail's history and the settlement of western Kansas.

4. ***Boot Hill Museum, Dodge City, Kansas***
Exhibits at the award-winning center of Western history detail the history of the trail town that was a crossroads of the Old West. Don't miss the National Park's Santa Fe Trail Dodge City Ruts site just west of town.

5. ***Cimarron, Comanche and Kiowa National Grasslands, KS, CO, and NM***
When following the Santa Fe Trail across the Southern Plains, take time to stop at one of the national grasslands and enjoy the region's timeless vistas and endless horizon.

6. ***Bent's Old Fort National Historic Site, La Junta, CO***
A must stop for Santa Fe Trail travelers going west or east on the mountain branch is Bent's Old Fort, which was reconstructed from original plans for the U.S. bicentennial in 1976.

7. ***Trinidad History Museum, Trinidad, CO***
Just north of Raton Pass on the Santa Fe Trail's mountain branch, the museum includes the Bloom Mansion, the Baca House and the Santa Fe Trail Museum. Don't miss the A.R. Mitchell Museum when in town.

8. ***Fort Union National Monument, Watrous, NM***
Built to protect travelers on the Santa Fe Trail, the fort stands at the crossroads of the trade route's mountain and Cimarron cutoff branches. Annual re-enactment events bring the fort and history to life.

9. ***Pecos National Historical Park, Pecos, NM***
The Santa Fe Trail passes right through the park in the Sangre de Cristo Mountains. The historical park preserves and celebrates the Pecos Puebloan site as a crossroads of culture in the Southwest.

10. ***Palace of the Governors Museum, Santa Fe, NM***
The historical centerpiece of the oldest capital city in the United States, the Palace of the Governors on Santa Fe Plaza and the New Mexico History Museum should be the first or final destination for heritage travelers on the Santa Fe Trail.

Dodge City is a major stop on the Cimarron Cutoff branch of the Santa Fe Trail, where visitors can see wagon ruts at a national park site west of town and learn about the history of the Old West in the region at the Boot Hill Museum.

– COURTESY KANSAS TOURISM –

The Magoffin House in San Elizario, Texas—a crossroad of the Butterfield Overland Trail and the El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro National Historic Trail—is a good place to start a tour north on the historic Spanish Trail to Santa Fe.

– COURTESY CAROL M. HIGHSMITH ARCHIVES, LIBRARY OF CONGRESS –

EL CAMINO REAL DE TIERRA ADENTRO NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL

PO Box 728
Santa Fe, NM 87504
505-988-6098 • ***NPS.gov***

While shorter than many of the national historic trails, the El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro is the oldest historic route in the Western United States. Founded by the Spanish as the northern segment of the royal road between Mexico City and the northern settlements of Neuvo Mexico, the 404-mile historic trail starts in El Paso, Texas, and ends in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

For cross-country heritage travelers on the Butterfield Overland Trail, a secondary trip north from San Elizario and El Paso north to Santa Fe is an opportunity to discover the complex history and cultural heritage of New Mexico. The route travels from the southern Rio Grande Valley through the ranching, farming and mining communities of southwestern New Mexico to the numerous Pueblo Indian cultural sites and towns of the northern Rio Grande Valley. Along the way, the route intersects with the Geronimo Trail National Scenic Byway (*GeronimoTrail.com*) headquartered in Truth or Consequences.

GERONIMO TRAIL GUEST RANCH

An excellent side trip along the El Camino Real de Tierra National Historic Trail and the Geronimo Trail National Scenic Byway is to the Geronimo Trail Guest Ranch (*GeronimoRanch.com*), south of Beaverhead. Located in the heart of the mountains of the Gila National Forest, the unique guest ranch offers guests the opportunity to immerse themselves in a relaxing, Western experience, with first-class accommodations. Guided trail rides take guests into the canyons and mountains to explore the Mimbres cultural sites adjacent to the ranch.

TRUE WEST
ULTIMATE HISTORIC TRAVEL GUIDE

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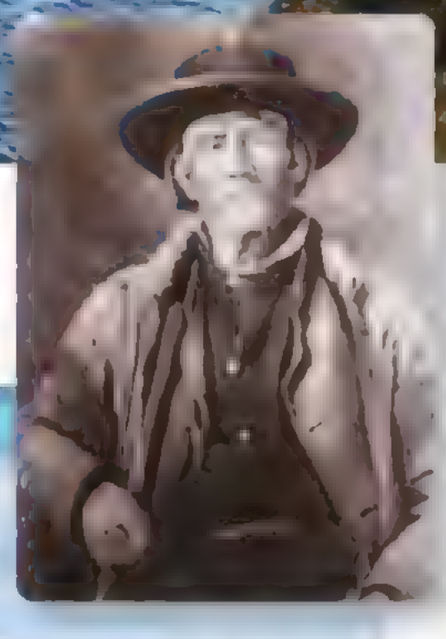


Mountain men Jim Bridger (inset), Jedediah Smith, Thomas Fitzpatrick and Etienne Provost discovered South Pass through the Rockies in southwestern Wyoming in 1824. The pass proved to be one of the most significant discoveries for the fur trade—and the future Oregon Trail wagon trains.

– JIM BRIDGER PHOTO COURTESY TRUE WEST ARCHIVES/SOUTH PASS PHOTO COURTESY WYOMING TOURISM –

OREGON, CALIFORNIA AND MORMON PIONEER HISTORIC TRAILS

National Trails
PO Box 728
Santa Fe, NM 87504
505-988-6098 • ***NPS.gov***

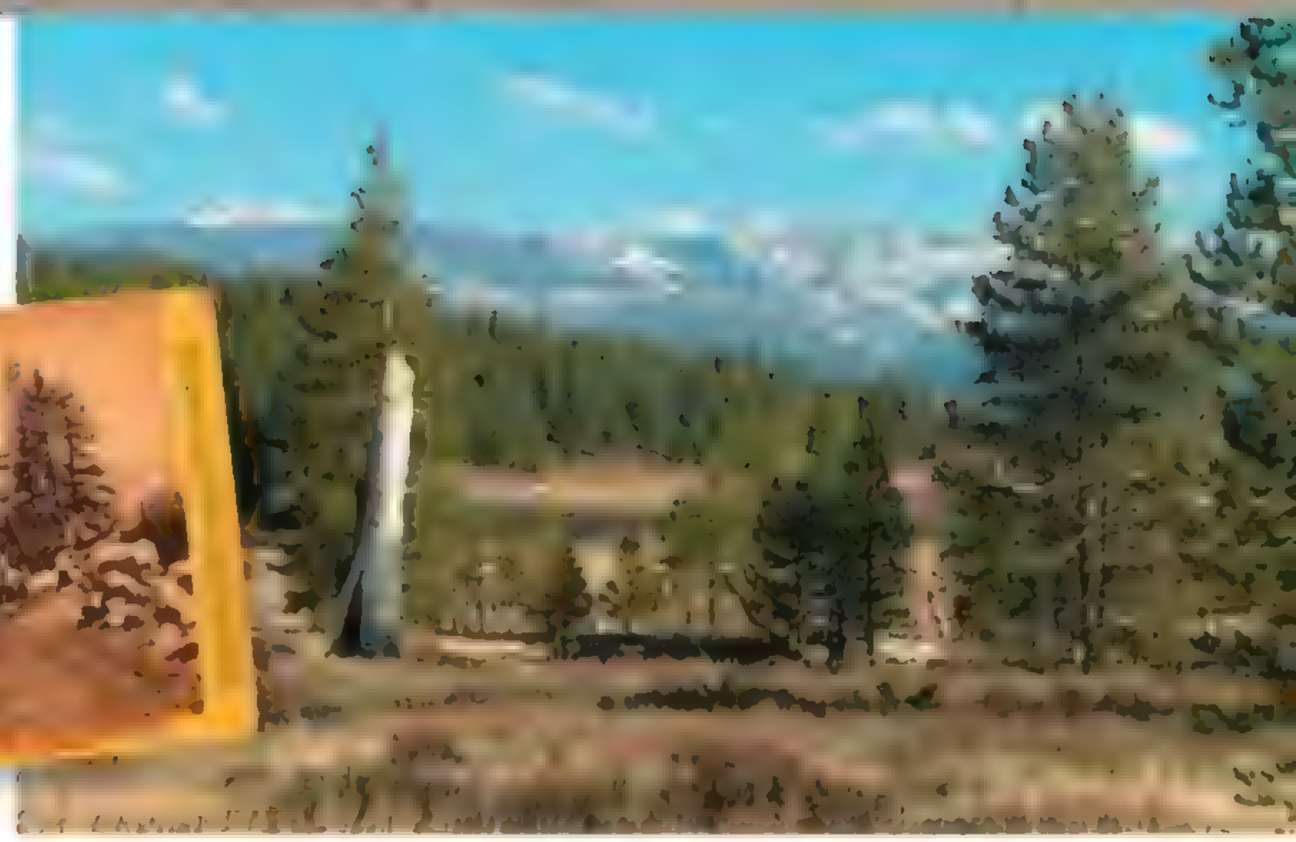
The mountain men and fur traders had crisscrossed the Great Plains, the Rocky Mountains and the Far West on ancient routes of Indian commerce for nearly four decades after Lewis and Clark's Corps of Discovery returned from their expedition. In 1843, the first wagon train successfully rolled West all the way from Independence, Missouri, to Oregon Territory. The famous Whitman Missionary settlement group had been the first to take wagons over the Rockies, but they had to abandon their wheeled transportation 200 miles short of the Walla Walla Valley. The key to the Oregon Trail pioneers' success in 1843 was the development of a route over South Pass, the lowest point, at 7,412 feet, along the Continental Divide in southwestern Wyoming. With this crossing point, the Oregon Trail quickly became the "mother road" of Western settlement and Manifest Destiny. Following the Oregon Territory treaty with Great Britain and the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo with Mexico, Western emigration to the Pacific Coast and the interior West increased rapidly. Soon major and minor branches of the Oregon route developed to California and Utah, which are known today as the California and Mormon Pioneer trails. Over the next few decades, more than 400,000 pioneers trekked West to find their bonanza, build farms, start communities and practice their faith in freedom.

A historical marker in Independence, Missouri, commemorates where thousands of wagons were ferried across the wide, muddy river to begin the journey West on the Oregon and California trails.

– COURTESY NPS.GOV –

The tragic California Trail Donner Party is remembered along the historic emigrant trail route across the Sierra Nevada, including Donner Pass near the Nevada and California border.

– PHOTO OF DONNER SPRINGS COURTESY NPS.GOV/EMIGRANT TRAIN NEAR STRAWBERRY VALLEY COURTESY NYPL DIGITAL COLLECTIONS –



TRUE WEST

ULTIMATE HISTORIC TRAVEL GUIDE

Highlights of the Trail

Today, heritage travelers seeking to immerse themselves in overland trail settlement history, can follow three National Park historic trails West through the heart of the country—to Oregon, California and Utah—and all points in between. The Oregon and California National Historic Trails begin in Independence, Missouri, while the Mormon Pioneer National Historic Trail begins in Nauvoo, Illinois, crosses Iowa and meets up parallel to the Oregon and California trails.

The best route planner for your trip is the National Parks' "Oregon National Historic Trail," "California National Historic Trail" and "Mormon Pioneer Historic Trail" sites (*NPS.gov*), but do not overlook the importance of the Oregon-California Trails Association (*OCTA-Trails.org*) or the Mormon Trails Association (*MormonTrails.org*) for the latest information on events occurring in communities along the trail.

Ten Places to Visit
ON THE OVERLAND PIONEER TRAILS

1. National Frontier Trails Museum, Independence, MO
Visitors to the museum in the city's historic district will discover a great introduction to the Oregon and California trails, as well as the other national trails that started in western Missouri.

2. Historic Nauvoo Visitor Center, Nauvoo, IL
While the Mormon Pioneer Trail can be followed west to east, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints' journey west to Utah begins in Nauvoo, and the visitor center is the best place to start.

3. Scotts Bluff National Monument, Scottsbluff, NE
For travelers following the overland trails, Scotts Bluff was visible for miles and a signature landmark of the North Platte River route. The national monument hosts annual living history events, has an excellent interactive visitor center and offers trails and drives from which visitors can experience the park's natural beauty.

4. Fort Laramie National Historic Site, Fort Laramie, WY
Built in 1834, Fort Laramie was a key stop on the North Platte River for travelers, settlers, traders and soldiers heading east or west on the overland trails.

Every wagon train traveling West on the North Platte River trail in eastern Wyoming, beginning with the Oregon Trail emigrants, depended on a much-needed waystop for provisions, water, repairs and more at Fort Laramie, which today is a national historic site and living history center.

– COURTESY CAROL M. HIGHSMITH ARCHIVES, LIBRARY OF CONGRESS –

5. Fort Bridger State Historic Site, Fort Bridger, WY
A key historic crossroads site on the Oregon, California and Mormon trails, the trading post was started by Jim Bridger and Louis Vasquez in 1843.

6. Oregon Trail National Trail Center, Baker City, OR
The Bureau of Land Management's living history center is dedicated to the heritage of the Oregon Trail pioneers.

7. This is the Place Heritage Park, Salt Lake City, UT
A living history center near the end of the Mormon Pioneer Trail commemorates the site where The Church of Latter-day Saints' spiritual leader Brigham Young and the pioneers saw the Salt Lake Valley for the first time.

8. California Trail Interpretive Center, Elko, NV
Visitors to the living history museum will be immersed in California trail history. It's a must stop for travelers retracing the track the bonanza seekers and pioneers followed to the Golden State.

9. Old Sacramento State Historic Park, Sacramento, CA
Now a museum and entertainment center in the heart of California's capital city, Old Sacramento was the western terminus of the California Trail. After a tour, schedule time to visit nearby Sutter's Fort State Historic Park.

10. The Columbia River Gorge Discovery Center, The Dalles, OR
At this critical crossroads of Oregon Trail history, a visitor will be enthralled with the exhibits on the exploration, settlement, cultural and natural history of the Columbia River Valley.

Butterfield Overland Trail

Travelers following the historic Butterfield Overland Trail across Texas should schedule a visit to the museum and grounds of the restored Fort Chadbourne, an important stage stop from 1858 to 1861.

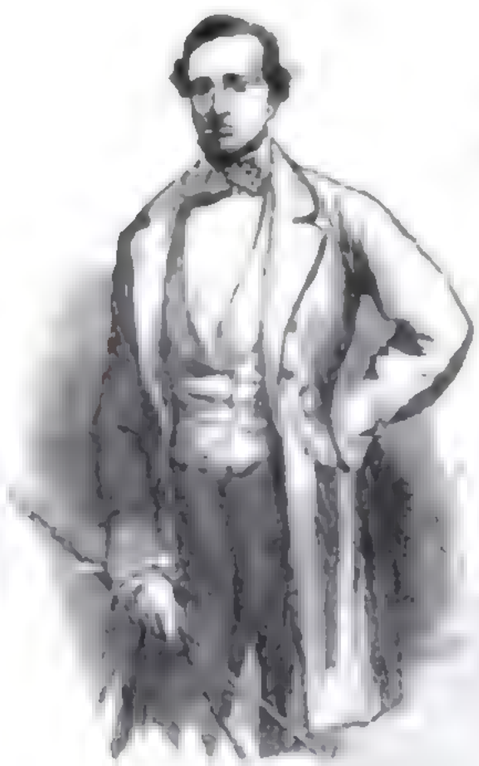
– TRUE WEST ARCHIVES –

BUTTERFIELD OVERLAND TRAIL

National Park Service
National Trails
Intermountain Region
P.O. Box 728
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504
505-988-6736
NPS.gov/ParkPlanning.NPS.gov

John Butterfield was an audacious entrepreneur who had a vision for the first national stage line to carry the mail to California. When he received a six-year mail contract from the United States Post Office on September 16, 1857, he had a year to put his newly formed Overland Mail Company in service from St. Louis, Missouri, and Memphis, Tennessee, to San Francisco, California. He would run 100 coaches of various styles based on road, weather and geography in a great oxbow line across the southern tier of the nation to avoid the snows and guarantee consistent delivery to the mail-starved West Coast.

The rugged 2,795-mile line was challenging at every level for drivers, animals and passengers alike, but no matter the weather or the trail's condition, the teamsters never stopped for passengers to sleep, and the coaches made the cross-country mail run twice a week in an average of 25 days. The line began with 139 stations in September 1858, and by the time it stopped running in March 1861, there were 175 stations strung out from the Mississippi River to the San Francisco Bay. While John Butterfield was forced to shutter his successful southern line and move his Overland Mail Company to the central route, including the Pony Express, his vision for a well-serviced, national stage line and mail service run like a railroad, forever transformed transportation in the West.



John Butterfield Sr. and John Butterfield Jr. rode the first stagecoach from Tipton, Missouri, to Fort Smith, Arkansas (below), on September 16, 1858. Fort Smith, a national historic site, was the crossroads of Butterfield's Overland Mail Company's two eastern mail terminuses: Memphis and St. Louis.

– FORT SMITH PHOTO COURTESY CAROL M. HIGHSMITH ARCHIVES, LIBRARY OF CONGRESS/ILLUSTRATION FROM TRUE WEST ARCHIVES –

Highlights of the Trail

Heritage travelers looking for a cross-country adventure in the fall and spring should consider the Butterfield Overland Trail for the same reasons that John Butterfield chose the southern route across the country: mild weather and temperatures perfect for exploring the American South and Southwest. For travelers doing the trail in segments, the Butterfield Overland Trail is definitely four-season, and many trail aficionados love to get off-road and trek over secondary and four-wheel drive roads to sites that can only be reached on foot.

While the Butterfield Overland Trail has yet to be officially designated a National Historic Trail, the process for its approval was introduced in the U.S. Senate in August 2020. For an overview of the proposal for the future "Butterfield Overland National Historic Trail," go to *ParkPlanning.NPS.gov* and download *Butterfield Overland Trail National Historical Trail Special Resource Study May 2018*. In addition, do not overlook the importance of information shared online by the Oregon-California Trails Association (*OCTA-Trails.org*), the Butterfield Overland Mail Route (*ButterfieldOverlandStage.com*) and the Facebook sites: *Butterfield Overland Trail Friends* and *Southern Trails Chapter of OCTA*. Lastly, contact state, county and city tourism agencies for information on local Butterfield sites and museum exhibitions.

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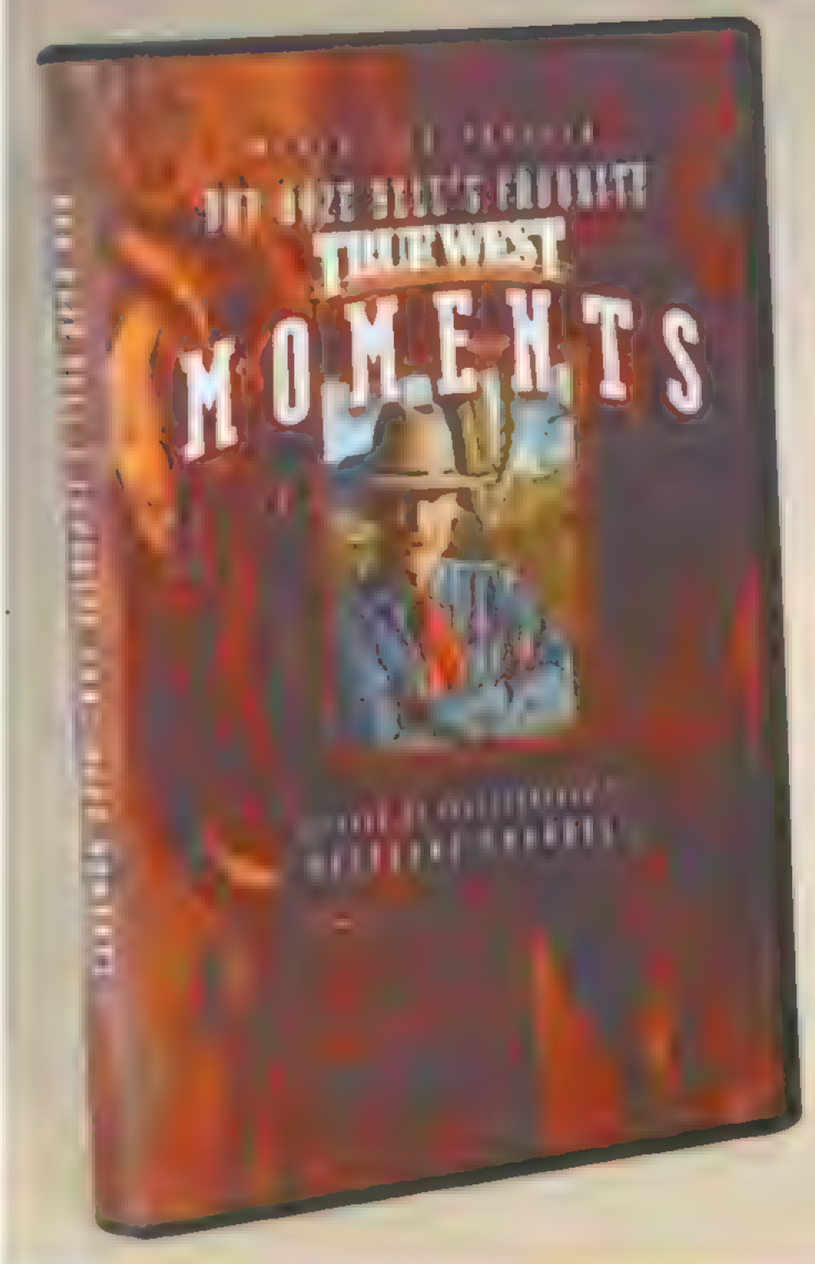

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Ten Places to Visit

ON THE BUTTERFIELD OVERLAND TRAIL

TRUE WEST
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1. Gateway Arch National Park, St. Louis, MO

On the Western frontier, St. Louis was the gateway commercial crossroads city between the East and West. The park's new museum is an excellent place to learn about Western expansion before following the Butterfield Overland Trail south and west.

2. Fort Smith National Historic Site, Fort Smith, AR

A key crossroad station for the Butterfield stage, Fort Smith was the last stop for drivers before entering the Indian Territory. Schedule time to tour the historic grounds and museum.

3. The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma Capitol Museum, Tvshka Homma, OK

The historic route of the Overland Stage went through the Choctaw Nation. Discover the rich cultural history of the Choctaw people through the museum's exhibits.

4. Fort Belknap, Newcastle, TX

In the 1850s, Fort Belknap was the U.S. Army's northernmost fort on the Texas frontier. The fort became a key outpost and station crossroads for the Butterfield Overland Trail. Today, Fort Belknap is a public park with a series of reconstructed buildings and a small museum in the Old Commissary.

5. Fort Chadbourne, Bronte, TX

Established in 1852, Fort Chadbourne was a key stop on the Butterfield Overland Mail route. The fort today has an informative visitor center, museum and several restored 19th-century buildings.

6. Fort Concho, San Angelo, TX

While Fort Concho and San Angelo had not been founded at the time the Butterfield ran through the Concho Valley, the stage stopped just south of the future townsite. Historic Fort Concho is a living history center that celebrates frontier Texas.

Fort Bowie was established in 1864 in the midst of the Army's war with the Chiricahua Apaches. Visitors who hike to the national historic site pass the Butterfield Overland Trail and Apache Spring, the key source of water at Apache Pass.

– COURTESY NPS.GOV –

Fort Yuma (inset), on the California side of the Colorado River, was a key crossing for the Butterfield stage line; following the Civil War, a Quartermaster's Depot was built on the Arizona side to supply the frontier Army in the new Territory.

– QUARTERMASTER DEPOT PHOTO COURTESY ARIZONA TOURISM/FORT YUMA LITHOGRAPH COURTESY BEINECKE LIBRARY, YALE UNIVERSITY –

7. San Elizario Historic District, San Elizario, TX

One of the most significant historic districts in the state dates back to the earliest Spanish settlements and its now-restored Presidio Chapel. The Butterfield Overland Mail had a station in the center of town, which today is a private residence.

8. Yuma Crossing National Heritage Area, Yuma, AZ and Winterhaven, CA

The Yuma crossing area of the Colorado River, between California and Arizona (in 1858, the New Mexico Territory), was the most important crossroads between Tucson and Los Angeles. The Colorado River State Historic Park is home to the restored Quartermaster Depot, while the original Fort Yuma and stage stop are part of the Fort Yuma Indian Reservation.

9. Autry Museum, Los Angeles, CA

Los Angeles was a key stop for the Butterfield line, and the Autry Museum is California's premier Western history museum. Don't miss the Journeys Gallery, which showcases the history of frontier transportation, including stagecoaches in the Golden State.

10. The Presidio National Historic Landmark, San Francisco, CA

San Francisco was the western terminus of the Butterfield Overland Trail, and in 1858, the Presidio was the Army's primary post in the city. Today it is part of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area, and a perfect place to begin a cultural tour of the city founded by the Spanish in 1776.

San Francisco was the western terminus of the Butterfield Overland Trail, but the Civil War terminated its service in March 1861. Visitors to the city's historic Presidio, a national historic site, enjoy living history events such as a Civil War re-enactment.

– COURTESY NPS.GOV –

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While only lasting 19 months, the Pony Express service's legendary ride is remembered annually by the National Pony Express Association across eight states, including by this rider in Wellsville, Utah.

– COURTESY UTAH TOURISM –

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ULTIMATE HISTORIC TRAVEL GUIDE

The Pony Express National Historic Trail

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GARFIELD STREET FOOTBRIDGE

Ames Monument sits at the highest point along the UP Railroad from coast-to-coast (8,247 feet). The monument stands 20 miles east of Laramie and 35 miles west of Cheyenne.

The first trans-continental highway, The Lincoln Highway, passes through Laramie. Located at the highest elevation along the road is the Lincoln Memorial Monument. Erected in 1959, the bronze statue continues to watch over the valleys below.

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Today, Fort Bridger is a Wyoming State Historic Park, but in 1860–61, the fort was an important station and crossroads for the Pony Express, Army and emigrants on the Mormon Pioneer, California and Oregon trails.

– COURTESY NPS.GOV –

The Pony Express flashed into history with the intensity of a comet flying across the night sky, and its legend has captured our imagination ever since. Born out of necessity after the shuttering of the Butterfield Southern Overland Trail because of the start of the Civil War, the Pony Express sent riders at a gallop out of St. Joseph, Missouri, in 1860, intent on keep ing the mail delivered by land to San Francisco. The amazing result, to all involved, was the delivery of the mail in 10 days, cutting 15 days off Butterfield's southern overland mail route. And while the famed Pony Express lasted just 19 months, from April 1860 to October 1861, it has become legendary and a permanent part of the mythology of the Old West.

When the national mail service was reorganized in 1858, with an emphasis on the new Southern Overland Trail route, Western freighting entrepreneurs William H. Russell, Alexander Majors and William B. Waddell formed the Leavenworth & Pike's Peak Express Company, later known as the Pony Express. Soon after the 2,000-mile central Pony Express route was launched from the eastern terminus of St. Joseph, Missouri, on April 3, 1860, the unique cross-country mail service captured headlines and the nation's imagination. The can-do American spirit of the horse-and-rider service had over 180 stations, 400 to 500 horses and 120 riders under contract. Riders were paid $100 to $150 a month and had to weigh between 100 and 125 pounds. The horses were switched every 10 to 15 miles; the riders were changed every 75 to 100 miles; and 75 horses were used on every one-way trip to deliver the specially designed mochilla, padlocked saddlebags that fit over the saddles to carry the mail. To have an average letter carried by the Pony Express cost $1 to $5, the equivalent to $25 to $130 today.

Highlights of the Trail

Kicking off an east-to-west trip on the Pony Express National Historic Trail should begin at the Pony Express Museum in St. Joseph, Missouri. Travelers heading west to east should start at the Pony Express Terminal in the B.F. Hastings Building in the historic center of Old Sacramento, California. Cross-country travelers will discover that they can actually check off more than one national historic trail when following the Pony Express route across country because from Missouri to California, the route parallels and intersects with the Oregon, California, Mormon Pioneer and Central Overland trails. Late spring, summer and early fall are the best seasons to enjoy driving the route in its entirety, as winter over much of the historic trail can be difficult at best and dangerous at its worst.

The best route planner for your trip is the National Parks' "Pony Express National Historic Trail" site (*NPS.gov*), but do not overlook the importance of the National Pony Express Association (*NationalPonyExpress.org*) for the latest information on events occurring in communities along the trail.

Ten Places to Visit

ON THE PONY EXPRESS NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL

1. Pony Express Museum, St. Joseph, MO

The nation's premier Pony Express history center, the St. Joseph museum includes the original stables and exhibited material that cannot be seen anywhere else in the country.

2. Pony Express Home Station and Museum, Marysville, KS

The Marysville museum is housed in Joseph Cottrell's 1859 stone barn, which was the Pony Express's Home Station #1 on the route West from St. Joseph, Missouri.

3. Rock Creek Station State Park, Fairbury, NE

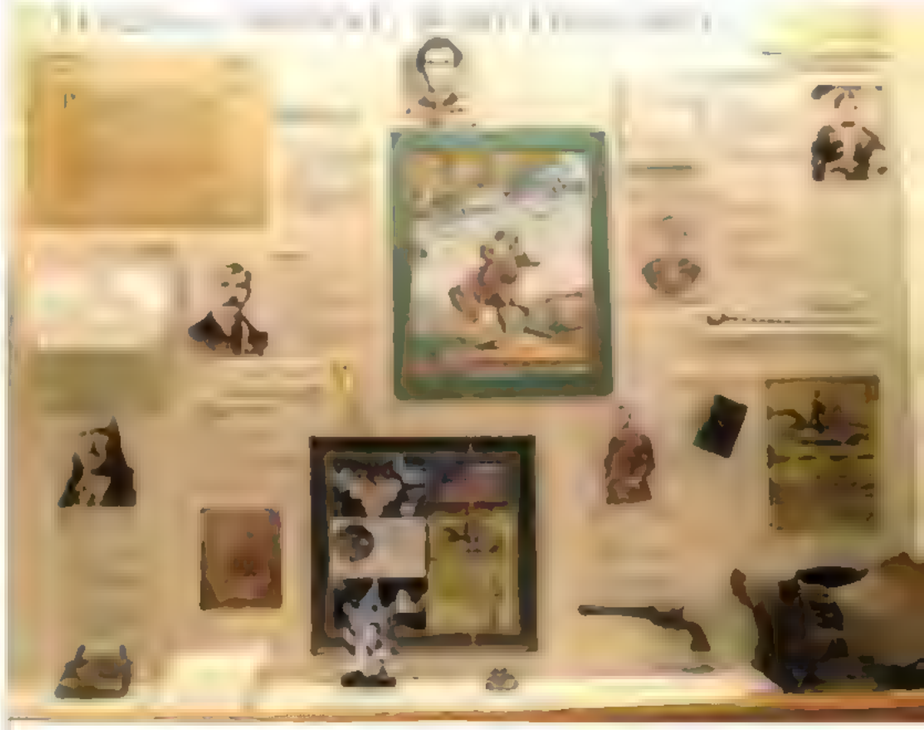
An all-important Pony Express station in southeastern Nebraska became infamous as the site of express stock-boy James Butler "Wild Bill" Hickok's first shootout and killing of Dave McCanles.

4. Fort Kearny State Historical Park, Kearney, NE

Built in 1848 as an Army outpost along the Oregon Trail, the fort had a Pony Express station and was an active post until 1871. The reconstructed fort park includes an interpretive center.

5. Buffalo Bill State Historical Park, North Platte, NE

While it has been proven that young William Cody was not an Express rider, the legendary frontiersman and showman's Scout's Rest Ranch is a must-stop on a Pony Express tour.



The legendary Pony Express riders are celebrated and honored at the Pony Express Museum in St. Joseph, Missouri (above).

– WILLIAM HENRY JACKSON'S "PONY EXPRESS RIDER" COURTESY SCOTTSBLUFF NM/NPS.GOV/PHOTO OF PONY EXPRESS MUSEUM INTERIOR COURTESY ST. JOSEPH, MISSOURI, CVB –

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6. National Historic Trails Interpretive Center, Casper, WY

The Casper, Wyoming, interpretive center has a comprehensive set of exhibits on the Pony Express, Oregon, California and Mormon Pioneer trails that shared the transcontinental road across Wyoming.

7. The Pony Express National Back Country Byway Visitor Information Site, West Valley City, UT

Check in with the Salt Lake City field office about road conditions (801-977-4300) before taking the well-maintained, gravel byway with interpretive sites along the historic segment of the Pony Express route across Utah's west desert. Camping is available along the route for a fee.

Ten years after its founding in 1848, Fort Kearny (right) was an important Army outpost protecting the overland trail in central Nebraska Territory. Today, visitors to the Nebraska state historical park can walk the recreated grounds of the fort and learn about its role as a Pony Express station.

– HISTORIC PHOTO OF FORT KEARNY BY SAMUEL C. MILLS, 1858, COURTESY TRUE WEST ARCHIVES/ MODERN FORT KEARNY PHOTO COURTESY NPS.GOV –

8. Fort Churchill State Historic Park, NV

Built in late 1860 to protect Overland Trail travelers and Pony Express riders, Fort Churchill was a key stop on the horse-driven mail route. The state park has an excellent visitor center museum and offers a self-guided tour of the grounds.

9. Nevada State Museum, Carson City, NV

Historic downtown Carson City was home to a Pony Express station, and a walking tour of the historic Nevada capital city leads to the Nevada State Museum housed in the landmark U.S. Mint Building.

10. B.F Hastings Building, Old Sacramento, CA

As the western terminus of the Pony Express, the B.F. Hastings building in the Old Sacramento Historic District is a National Historic Landmark and home to two Wells Fargo museums. While on a tour of Old Sacramento, schedule time to visit the district's many museums, including the California State Railroad and Sacramento History museums.

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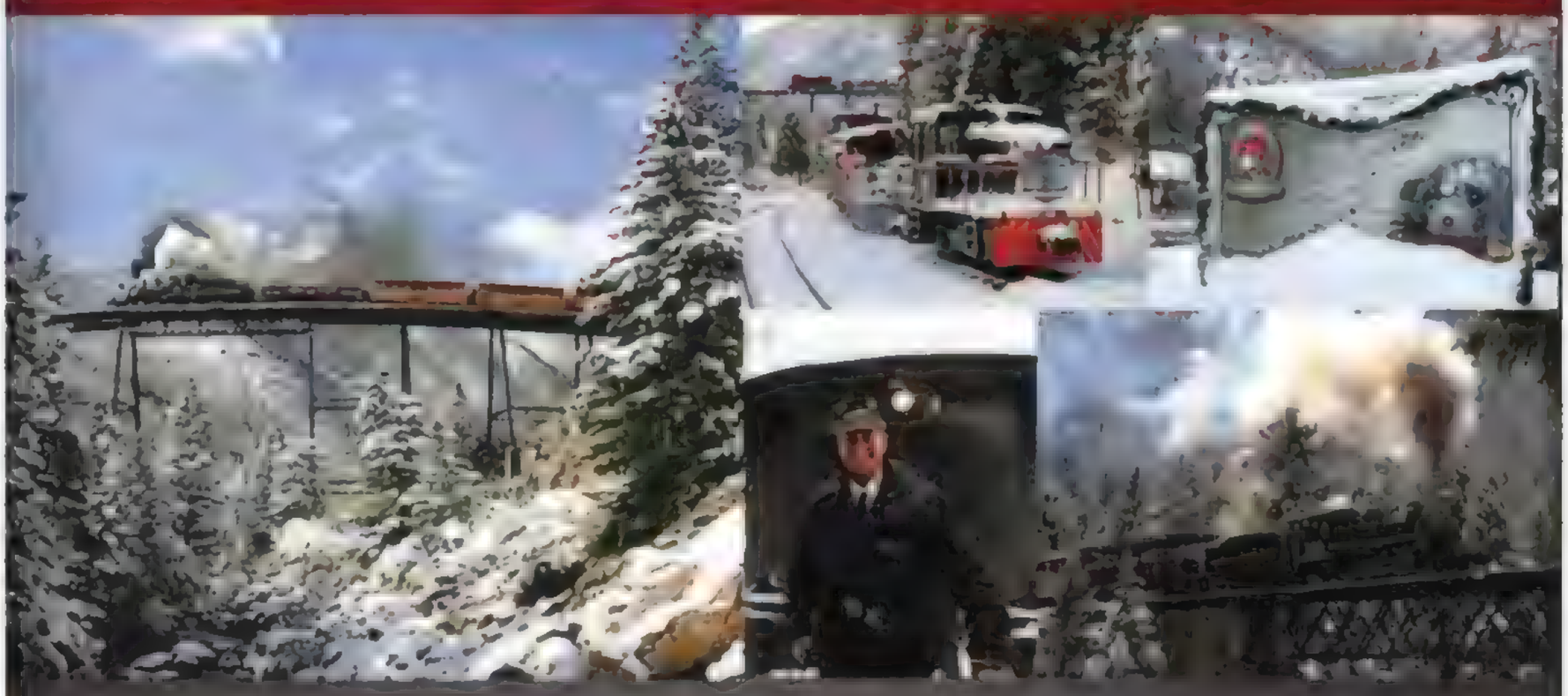

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The Texas Trails: Chisholm, Western, Goodnight-Loving

The monument at the Chisholm Trail Heritage Center in Duncan, Oklahoma, greets all visitors to the most comprehensive museum dedicated to the history of the world-famous cattle trail.

-- COURTESY CHISHOLM TRAIL HERITAGE CENTER –

THE TEXAS TRAILS

National Park Service
National Trails
Intermountain Region
P.O. Box 728
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504
505-988-6736
NPS.gov/ParkPlanning.NPS.gov

Texas cowboys, cattle drives and the cattle trails from south Texas to northern railheads and the cattle-hungry towns and military camps of the interior West have become ingrained in the nation's history and mythology. Today, more than 150 years since the first great drives up what would become known as the Chisholm Trail from Texas, through Oklahoma to Abilene, Kansas, the trails are well-promoted as tourist routes through the three primary states that the massive longhorn herds passed through.

During the Civil War, beef had become a staple of Union soldiers, and following the war, beef became a major commodity for a hungry, quickly industrializing America. The great, wild longhorn herds of South Texas and the Rio Grande Valley border area had swelled into the millions during the war. Returning soldiers and Texas cattlemen realized an opportunity: gather up and claim as many unbranded cattle as possible and drive them north to Kansas railheads. By the end of the century, by some counts, over 27 million head of Texas cattle were driven north to market from the Lone Star State.

Four years after the Texas cattlemen started driving their giant herds of longhorns up the Chisholm Trail to Abilene, Kansas, James Butler "Wild Bill" Hickok was hired as marshal to enforce the law in the wild cowtown. Today, visitors to Old Abilene Town can experience an old-fashioned cattle drive at Chisholm Trail Days every Labor day.

– PHOTO OF WILD BILL HICKOK COURTESY TRUE WEST ARCHIVES/ABILENE CATTLE DRIVE COURTESY ABILENE, KANSAS, CVB –

Highlights of the Trail

Following the great cattle trails north from Texas to points north in Oklahoma, Kansas, New Mexico and beyond can consume a lifetime of heritage travel that would start in the Rio Grande Valley near Brownsville, Texas, and go as far north as Montana and Canada. San Antonio, Texas, is an excellent city from which to start any Texas cattle trails tour north to Kansas. From there it is easy to branch off and retrace the Chisholm and Great Western north, following the well-marked and promoted trails to Kansas's Chisholm Trail cattle towns and the Great Western's railhead in Dodge City. After a little homework, the Goodnight-Loving Trail can be followed from Fort Belknap, Texas, west and north all the way to Cheyenne. The truly adventurous and dedicated Great Western trail traveler can seek to follow ultimate trek from Mexico to Canada.

While the Chisholm, Great Western and Goodnight-Loving trails are yet to receive Congressional designation as national historic trails, the Chisholm and Great Western are currently under review by the National Park Service for official National Historic Trail status. For more information, go to *ParkPlanning.NPS.gov* to read the *Chisholm and Great Western NHT Feasibility Study & Transmittal Letters to Congress*. The report provides the Texas Trails traveler with details on the proposed official routes and in-depth history of the cattle drivers routes north from Texas to Kansas and beyond. For additional information on planning heritage travel along the cattle routes, the following organizations—in addition to state tourism agencies—provide information on the trails useful for re-tracing the historic routes of the cattle drives: Chisholm Trail Association (*ChisholmTrailAssn.com*), Chisholm Trail Preservation Society (*ChisholmTrail.org*), Great Western Cattle Trail Association (*TheGreatWesternTrail.com*) and the Texas State Historical Association (*TSHAOnline.org*).

TRUE WEST
ULTIMATE HISTORIC TRAVEL GUIDE

Ten Places to Visit
ON THE TEXAS TRAILS

The Goodnight-Loving Trail was established in 1866 and it crossed the Concho River Valley en route to Fort Sumner, New Mexico Territory. In 1867, Fort Concho was founded and soon thereafter the town of San Angelo was established. Today, the historic site is a living history center of frontier military life.

– COURTESY SAN ANGELO CVB –

1. *Witte Museum, San Antonio, TX*

The Alamo City was a major gathering point for the Texas cattlemen driving their gathered herds north from south Texas before pointing their giant herds north to the Kansas railheads. Discover the rich heritage of the Lone Star State cattle and cowboys at the Witte Museum.

2. *Frontier Times Museum, Bandera, TX*

The hill country cowtown on the Medina River was a key gathering point and trailhead for the Western Trail north to Dodge City. Learn about the "Cowboy Capital of the World's" role in trail history at the town's famous Frontier Times Museum.

3. *Fort Worth Stockyards National Historic District, Fort Worth, TX*

The historic entertainment district and stockyards was the last stop for cattlemen before they drove their herds north to the Red River Crossing and what would become known as the Chisholm Trail.

4. *Chisholm Trail Heritage Center, Duncan, OK*

The preeminent museum dedicated to the legendary Chisholm Trail has the most in-depth exhibitions on cattle-driving history in the West.

5. *National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum, Oklahoma City, OK*

Take a detour of the Chisholm Trail route to visit Oklahoma's number one museum dedicated to the history and culture of the West.

6. *Old Abilene Town, Abilene, KS*

Discover at the living history center how Abilene became known as the "Queen of the Cowtowns" after Texas cowboys drove their longhorns north on the Chisholm Trail to the new railhead in Abilene in 1867.

7. *Old Cowtown, Wichita, KS*

Stroll down Old Cowtown's Main Street and discover a living history center of 54 historic and reconstructed buildings designed to tell the story of Wichita's storied history as a cattle town.

Bandera, a trailhead for the Great Western (aka Western) Trail, celebrates its cowtown and Old West heritage with regularly scheduled gunfight re-enactments by the local Bandera Cattle Company Gunfighters.

– STUART ROSEBROOK –

8. Boot Hill Museum, Dodge City, KS

The Dodge City railhead became the primary destination for Texas cattle drives up the Western Trail in 1876. Start an Old West heritage tour of the historic cowtown at the legendary Boot Hill Museum and discover how Dodge City earned the moniker "Wickedest Little City in America."

9. Fort Concho National Historic Landmark, San Angelo, TX

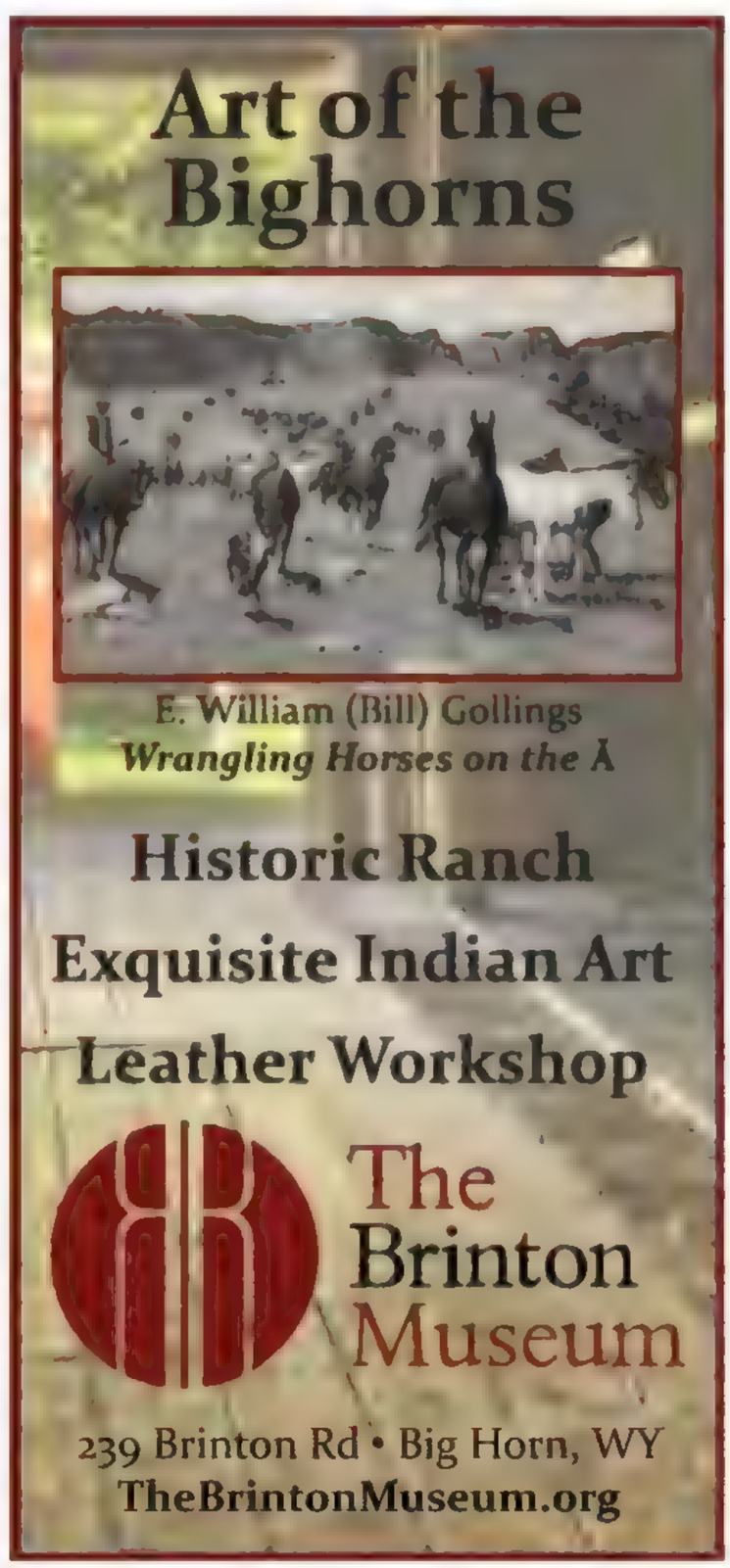
A year before the 1867 fort was founded as a key Army post on Texas's post-Civil War frontier, Charles Goodnight and Oliver Loving drove their herd through the Concho Valley from the Fort Belknap area before heading West to Fort Sumner, New Mexico, and Denver, Colorado.

10. The Nelson Museum of the West, Cheyenne, WY

Discover the history of how Cheyenne became a major cattle town after Charles Goodnight and Oliver Loving in 1868 extended their Goodnight-Loving Trail north from Denver to Cheyenne, which had become a "Hell on Wheels" railroad construction camp on the Union Pacific.

In 1876, Texas cattlemen started driving their longhorns up the Great Western trail to the railhead in Dodge City, Kansas. Today, visitors to the reconstructed Front Street at the Boot Hill Museum will be immersed in the legendary history of Dodge City.

– DODGE CITY GENERAL STORE PHOTO COURTESY TRUE WEST ARCHIVES/ BOOT HILL FRONT STREET COURTESY KANSAS TOURISM –



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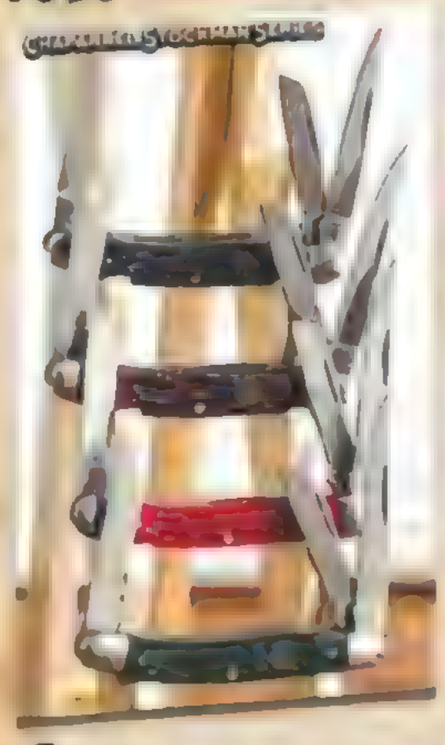

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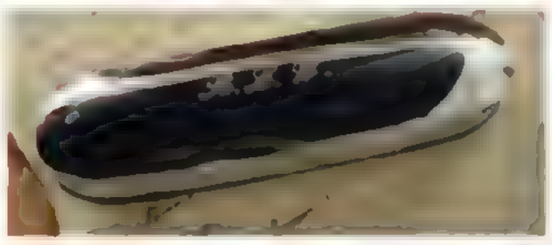

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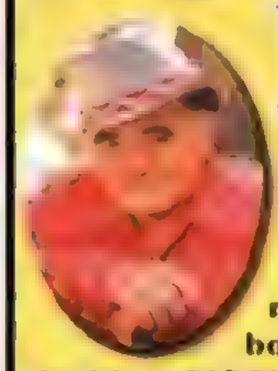

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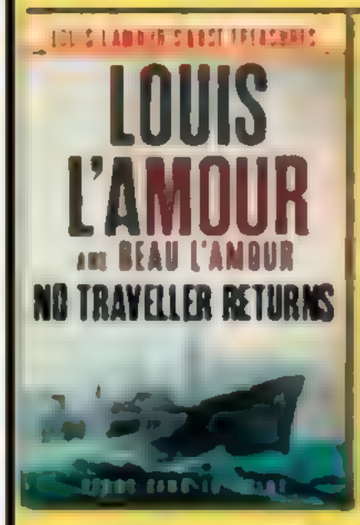

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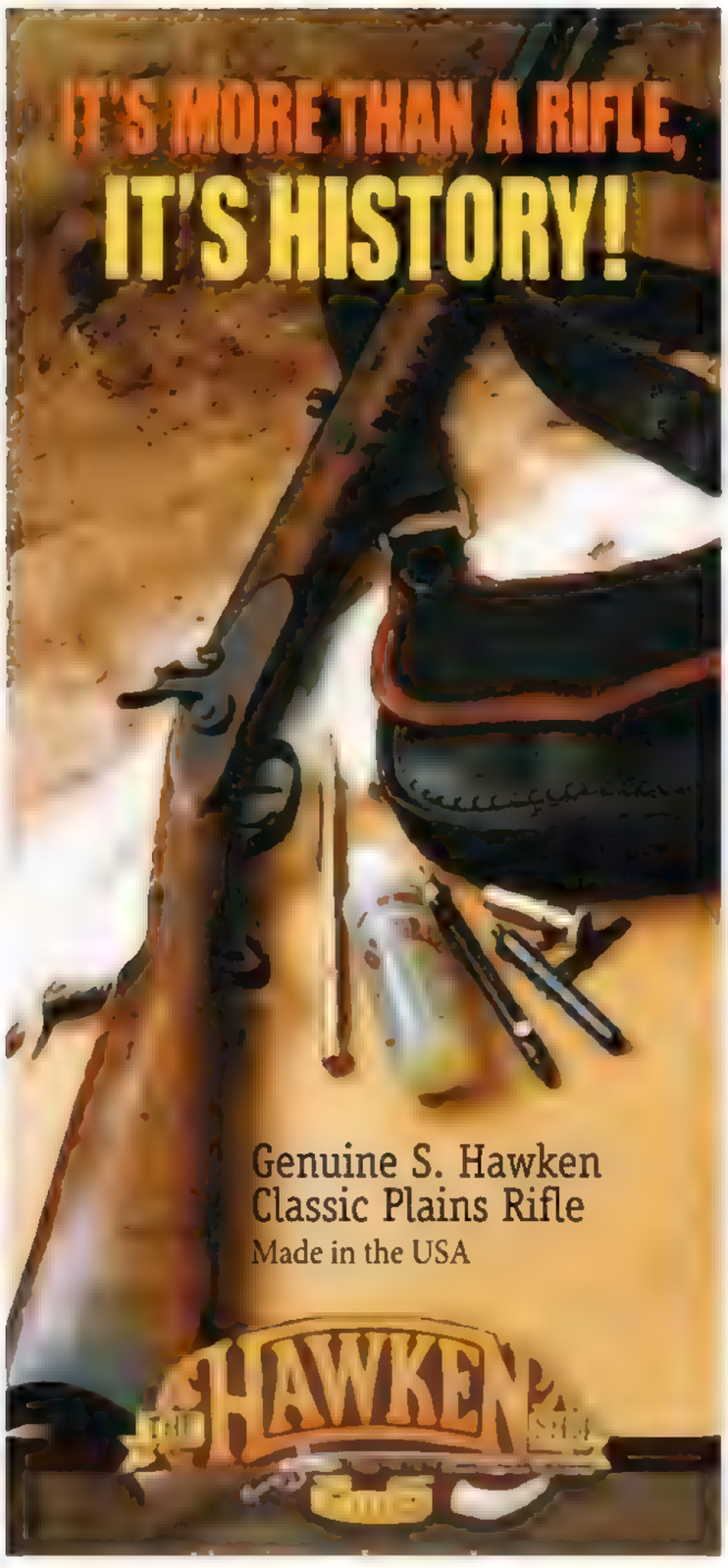

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D2	0	0
D3	0	0
D4	1,726	1,375
E	1,726	1,375
F	54,009	53,815
G	0	0
H	54,099	53,815
I	96.8%	97.4%

17. Dec 2020 18. Carole Glenn, 10-13-20

Western Roundup

FOR DECEMBER 2020

– COURTESY PRESCOTT CVB –

PRESCOTT COURTHOUSE PARADE & LIGHTING

Prescott, AZ, December 5: Festive and fun for the entire family, the parade begins at 1 p.m., and the lighting of the Courthouse Plaza ceremonies begin at 6 p.m.
928-777-1100 • *Visit-Prescott.com*

GUN SHOW

BIG TOWN PREMIER GUN SHOW

Mesquite, TX, December 12-13: Visit the Premier Gun Show and its 750 tables at Big Town. The public is invited to buy, sell or trade.
817-732-1194 • *PremierGunShows.com*

HOLIDAY FESTIVALS

CHRISTMAS PARADE OF LIGHTS & CHILI COOK-OFF

Dodge City, KS, November 30: The 19th annual Parade of Lights and Chili Cook-off includes chili judging at 4 p.m. and sampling, which begins at 5 p.m. A virtual Santa's house and Santa's Sleigh Ride will be at the event, too.
800-OLD-WEST • *VisitDodgeCity.org*

COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS LIGHTING AND FIREWORKS

Pecos, TX, December 1: Get in the spirit of the season with a Christmas tree-lighting, caroling, fireworks, hot chocolate and cookies.
432-445-2406 • *VisitPecos.com*

LIGHT OF THE WORLD CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Minden, NE, December 1, 7 and 8: Minden celebrates "105 Years of Lights" with 15,000 lights strung throughout downtown.
308-832-1811 • *MindenNE.org*

CHRISTMAS AT OLD FORT CONCHO

San Angelo, TX, December 4-6: This 1867 fort celebrates the different cultures of Texas with three days full of Christmas cheer, including shopping, living history and much more.
325-481-2646 • *FortConcho.com*

CHRISTMAS PAST AND PRESENT

Grand Island, NE, December 7-8, 13-14: This lamp-lit tour of Railroad Town offers live music in a festive celebration of the spirit of Christmas.
308-385-5316 • *StuhrMuseum.org*

HIGH PLAINS CHRISTMAS

Gering, NE, December 5: This High Plains holiday gathering features hayrides, marshmallow roasts and bonfire cowboy coffee.
308-436-1989 • *LegacyOfThePlains.org*

COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING AT OUTLAW SQUARE

Deadwood, SD, December 4: All are welcome to join the community Christmas tree-lighting at Outlaw Square. The tree-lighting will be at 5:15 p.m., and Santa arrives at 5:30 p.m. for this holiday event for the entire family.
605-717-6848 • *Deadwood.com*

32ND ANNUAL WICKENBURG COWBOY CHRISTMAS POETRY GATHERING

Wickenburg, AZ, December 4-5: Visit the Western community for a special heritage event. The Cowboy Reception is on Friday, December 4, and includes beer/wine and appetizers at the Cultural Crossroads Learning Center.
928-684-5479 • *WickenburgChamber.com*

18TH ANNUAL PARADE OF LIGHTS

Missoula, MT, December 5: Kick off the holiday season with a day of family activities that bring the community together for free and low cost children's activities, holiday carolers and performers, hot cocoa and cookies, all culminating with the annual Parade of Lights and annual Lighting of the Christmas Tree at Circle Square.
406-543-4238 • *MissoulaDowntown.com*

WICKENBURG 26TH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARADE OF LIGHTS

Wickenburg, AZ, December 11: Enjoy the beauty of the holiday season amid the glittering lights of the 26th Annual Christmas Parade of Lights "Out Wickenburg Way." More than 30 floats will fill the streets of downtown Wickenburg on December 11, starting at 6:30 p.m.
928-684-5479 • *WickenburgChamber.com*

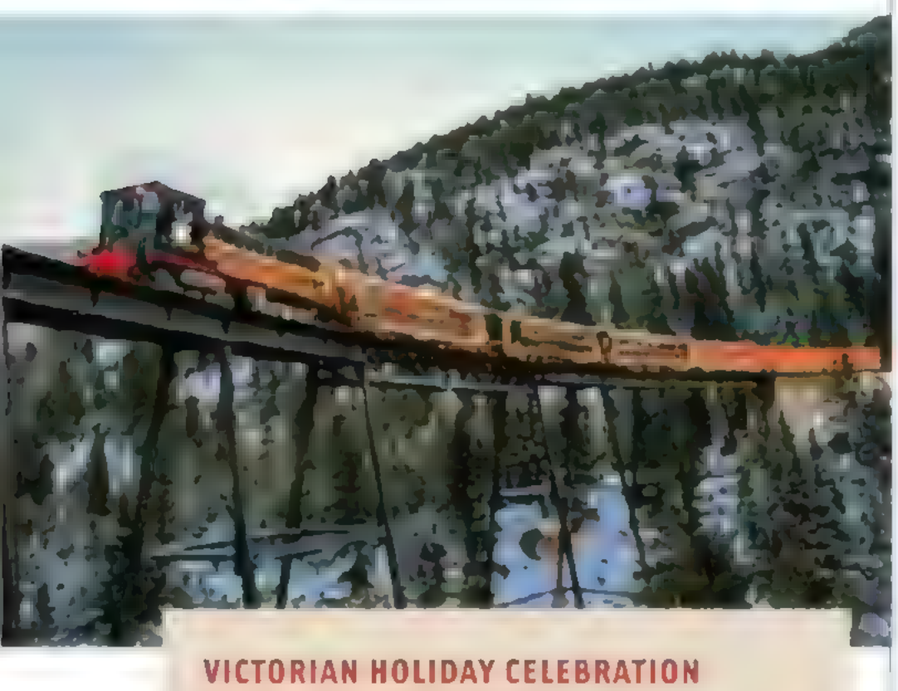
OUR CHRISTMAS PAST: A FRONTIER ARMY CHRISTMAS AT FORT LARNED

Larned, KS, December 12: There will be pictures with Santa in the North Officers' quarters, 1860s holiday food in the Barracks Mess Hall, carriage rides around the fort grounds, and 19th-century crafts and games for the children.
620-285-6911 • *NPS.gov*

CHRISTMAS LIGHT PARADE & LIGHTING OF THE HISTORIC COURTHOUSE LUMINARIES

Tombstone, AZ, December 12: The sound of caroling will fill the streets along with the glow of a thousand twinkling lights and the "ho ho ho" of Santa in his sleigh. Great Old West fun for the entire family.
520-457-9317 • *TombstoneChamber.com*

– COURTESY GEORGETOWN LOOP RAILROAD –



VICTORIAN HOLIDAY CELEBRATION HOLIDAY LIGHT FOREST

Georgetown, CO, December 26-January 5, 2021: Enjoy hot cocoa, cookies and candy canes with Santa and his helpers aboard decorated train coaches.
888-456-6777 • *GeorgetownLoopRR.com*

SINGING IN THE SADDLE

Bandera, TX, December 14-15: Join Santa for a Christmas caroling trail ride around town. Wagons or buggies are available for non-riders, as space allows. Bring your guitar if you'd like. The ride leaves promptly at 1 p.m.
830-796-4447 • *BanderaCowboyCapital.com*

CHRISTMAS AT THE CODYS'

North Platte, NE, December 17-20: Celebrate the holidays in Buffalo Bill Cody's 1886 mansion with caroling and horse-drawn rides.
308-535-0835 • *VisitNorthPlatte.com*

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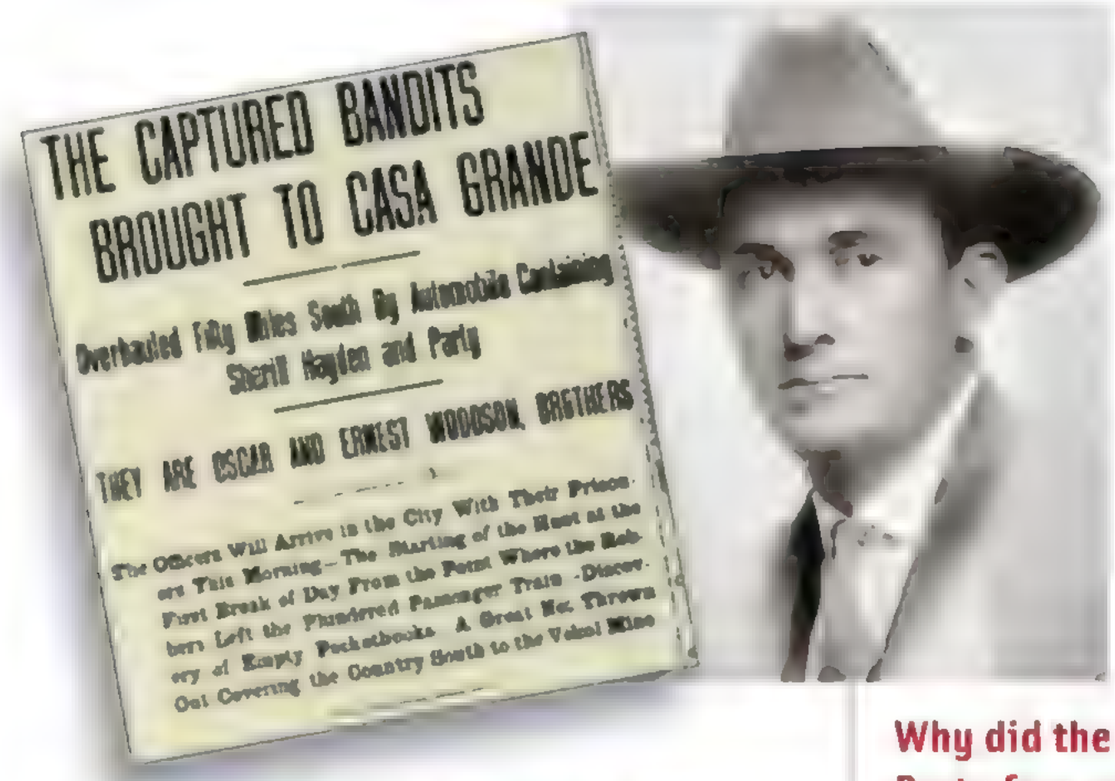
Marshall Trimble is Arizona's official historian and vice president of the Wild West History Association. His latest book is *Arizona Oddities: Land of Anomalies and Tamales;* History Press, 2018. If you have a question, write: Ask the Marshall, P.O. Box 8008, Cave Creek, AZ 85327 or e-mail him at marshall.trimble@scottsdalecc.edu. Please always include your name, city and state.

Motorized Posses, Deadly Dry-gulchers and Indian Tobacco


THE CAPTURED BANDITS BROUGHT TO CASA GRANDE

Overhauled Fifty Miles South By Automobile Containing Sheriff Hayden and Party

THEY ARE OSCAR AND ERNEST WOODSON, BROTHERS

The Officers Will Arrive in the City With Their Prisoners This Morning—The Starting of the Hunt at the First Break of Day From the Point Where the Robbers Left the Hundred Passenger Train—Discovery of Empty Pocketbooks—A Great Net Thrown Out Covering the Country South to the Yaqui Mine

Arizona Territory's Maricopa County Sheriff Carl Hayden was the first Western lawman to pursue and capture a criminal in a motorcar. He may have wrecked the car in the chase but it made great headlines in 1910—and a great story in 2020.

– PHOTO COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS/NEWS CLIPPING COURTESY NEWSPAPERS.COM –

Who was the first sheriff to pursue outlaws in a motorized vehicle?

Perry Stoneman
Atlanta, Georgia

Carl Hayden, the sheriff of Maricopa County, Arizona Territory. In 1910, Oscar and Ernie Woodson—"The Beardless Boy Bandits"—decided to rob a passenger train between Phoenix and Maricopa. The teenagers got $300 from the passengers and headed for Mexico on two rental horses.

Sheriff Hayden picked up a Dayton-Stoddard touring car in Maricopa and went on the chase. He and three deputies bounced across arroyos and sped through cactus and greasewood and had no trouble following the boys' tracks.

Meanwhile, exhausted and out of water, the bandits stopped in an arroyo to rest beneath the shade of a palo verde tree.

Suddenly, they saw a cloud of dust and a large touring car. Thinking the occupants were miners, they rushed out waving their arms. They got a big surprise when out jumped the officers with rifles pointed at them.

The boys were shackled and taken back to Phoenix to much fanfare.

Why did the women of the Donner Party fare much better than the men?

Sherman Wilson
San Francisco, California

According to a 1990s study by archaeologist Donald Grayson of the University of Washington, women are twice as likely as men to survive extreme cold and hunger. The reason: "More body fat, a lower metabolic rate and a temperament that is less prone to aggression make females the hardier sex when it comes to surviving disaster."

Dr. Stephan A. McCurdy, a medical epidemiologist at the Davis School of Medicine, did a study on the Donner Party. He found the most important risk factors affecting survival were age, gender and family support. Dr. McCurdy noted the influence of gender was striking. Even the women who eventually died survived longer than the men.

What are the origins and meanings of the terms bushwhack and dry-gulch?

John Stone
Boston, Massachusetts

These are among the many terms used to describe killing or ambushing somebody without giving them a fair chance.

The term bushwhacker goes back a long way. Bushwhackers during the Civil War and Old West cattle wars were guerilla warriors and assassins who ambushed enemies on the opposite side—often from the cover of bushes. Some bushwhacked and robbed men on both sides. During the cattle wars, outfits sometimes hired gunmen to assassinate a suspected rustler.

Dry-gulch is often synonymous with *bushwhack*: to ambush somebody from a hidden place, including a gulch or ravine. It's just another term for killing someone.

How did Indians come across tobacco?

Lynn Schornick
Chicago, Illinois

There are multiple species of tobacco, which is in the same botanical family as eggplant, tomatoes, potatoes and chili peppers. *Nicotiana rustica* and *Nicotiana tabacum* were domesticated in the Andes of Peru and Ecuador. They migrated north with the help of Indian farmers. Tobacco was not native to Virginia, but it was being grown in North America by indigenous farmers some 4,000 years ago.

John Rolfe is credited with importing the seeds of *Nicotiana tabacum* to Virginia. Thanks to him, settlers grew a species of tobacco that was less harsh, with less nicotine and competed successfully against the *Nicotiana rustica* imported to Spain. It was often traded with local Indians.

In the American West, the tribes used a preparation called kinnikinnick, a concoction made of tobacco mixed with herbs, barks and plant matter. With the arrival of French, English and American traders around 1800, they could also

As a member of Sir William Drummond Stewart's 1837 Western hunting party, artist Alfred Jacob Miller sketched their travels, including depictions of anecdotal moments, such as the idyllic evening of trappers and Indians sharing an evening smoke in *Campfire by Moonlight.*

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barter for the white man's tobacco. It was said that many of the early Indian attacks on whites were motivated by a desire for coffee and tobacco.

How much of a problem were contagions in the Old West?

John Volz
Lagrange, Kentucky

They were a big problem. The existence of germs was known but not widely accepted. People (and animals) dwelled in primitive surroundings, with lice, fleas and bedbugs infesting nearly everything. People settled close to streams and were besieged by flies and gnats by day and mosquitoes by night. Families ate by common platter and drank from common tin cups.

There were public towels at saloons and community toothbrushes at stagecoach stations. Doctors probed gunshot wounds with their fingers, trying to find bullets. So the spread of disease was frequent and widespread. Malaria and related fevers were the most prevalent. Diarrhea and dysentery, due to unsanitary conditions, were common problems. More soldiers during the Civil War died of those two afflictions than from gunshot wounds. ★

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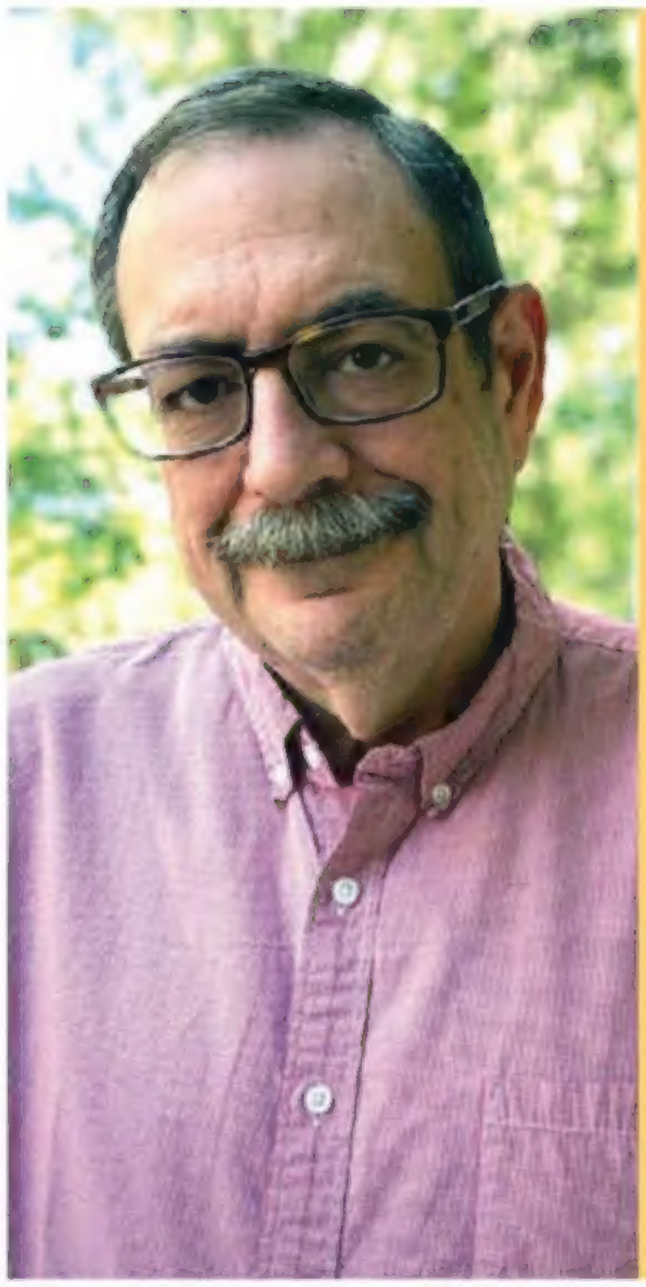

JUDITH JACOBY

GARY GOLDSTEIN, EDITOR

Gary Goldstein joined the book publishing biz in 1988. He started at Bantam Books as an associate editor when it was just Bantam Doubleday Dell. Since then he has worked at Pocket Books, Penguin, and since 2003 has been in charge of the Western program at Kensington Publishing, helping to make Westerns their top-selling category. His authors have won more than a dozen Spur Awards from the Western Writers of America. This is his first appearance in *True West*. He cannot promise it will be his last.

Growing up in post-World War II West Hempstead, Long Island, New York, was joyous. My friends were Italian (and introduced me to meatball parmesan heroes), Irish, Greek, African American, Jewish and Hispanic. Most of my pals were second- and third-generation and loved America and all the blessings of freedom and democracy. That love extended to movies, Westerns mostly, and we were all crazy for John Wayne.

My parents were from the Bronx (Dad) and Toronto, Canada (Mom). My dad was a big Western buff, but as a kid, I was hopelessly addicted to horror movies. (Still am.) So my folks were relieved when I'd watch *Gunsmoke* or *The Man Who Shot Liberty Valance*—they didn't wake me up at 3 a.m. screaming that Frankenstein or the giant ants in *Them!* were chasing me.

My first glimpse of the Manhattan skyline was at the age of five (or the first glimpse I can remember) when the family was driving into town on the Long Island Expressway. Even then I knew it was where destiny would someday plop me down. And it did.

A teacher who had a great influence was the late Frank Vinci who taught 7th and 8th grade English at West Hempstead High School. He somehow made reading enjoyable. He assigned us short stories like Jack London's "To Build a Fire" and Max Brand's "Wine on the Desert," which 50 years later I would include in a Western anthology I did for Kensington.

The Yankees were a stone's throw from the border of Nassau County and Queens, but I was a NY Mets fan. Also, my folks wouldn't let me go to the Bronx where the Yankees played.

Manhattan was a pretty rough place in the 1970s, but Hell's Kitchen was the roughest of the rough. The Irish gangsters, the Westies, were running things then. When my folks came to visit and saw the crumbling tenement where I was living at 21 in 1976, my mom broke into tears and my father said, "Great—from rags to rags in three generations."

The New York mob...Who wants to know?

An author who inspired me growing up was Donald Westlake. His "Dortmunder Gang" epics were funny—crazy plots, colorful and endearing characters and all set in NYC.

The first Western book I read was *Shane*. I'd seen the movie, and the school library had it, so I checked it out and read it in under two days. My first, and still my favorite.

A Western film I will watch again and again is *The Searchers*, though admittedly *Support Your Local Sheriff* runs a close second.

Before digital books, I read mass market paperbacks—couldn't afford hardcover editions. And the libraries never carried anything too sexy or violent.

Elmer Kelton was an honest-to-goodness Texas gentleman and one helluva novelist.

It's been said that jazz is the only true American art form, to which I say, "mule fritters." The Western is a uniquely American art form as well. *Shane*, *The Virginian*, *Lonesome Dove*—tell me to my face that these aren't works of art.

The Western as a genre will never completely disappear as long as I'm still in the book biz. And until 1976, I'd never been any farther west than 10th Avenue.

A good martini is three fingers of Tanqueray gin, a whiff of vermouth and three olives on a toothpick. Always order a second one before finishing the first.

Hosting Kensington dinners at WWA conventions with my authors and their spouses, and sometimes their families, are the absolute highlight of my 32-year career in publishing. In the office, my Western authors are known as Goldstein's Posse.

Thanks to almost 30 years of WWA conventions, with a huge assist from author Max McCoy and his Jeep, I've been to every state west of the Mississippi (except Hawaii) and loved every one of them. I could tell many stories of our road trips, but *True West* is a family magazine.

What history has taught me... Never mess with Uncle Sam's USA, never mess with the IRS, and for God's sake, stop rewriting American history in the name of political correctness—which has tried to even creep into the Westerns I publish. In return, I give it a nice hard boot in the ass. ★

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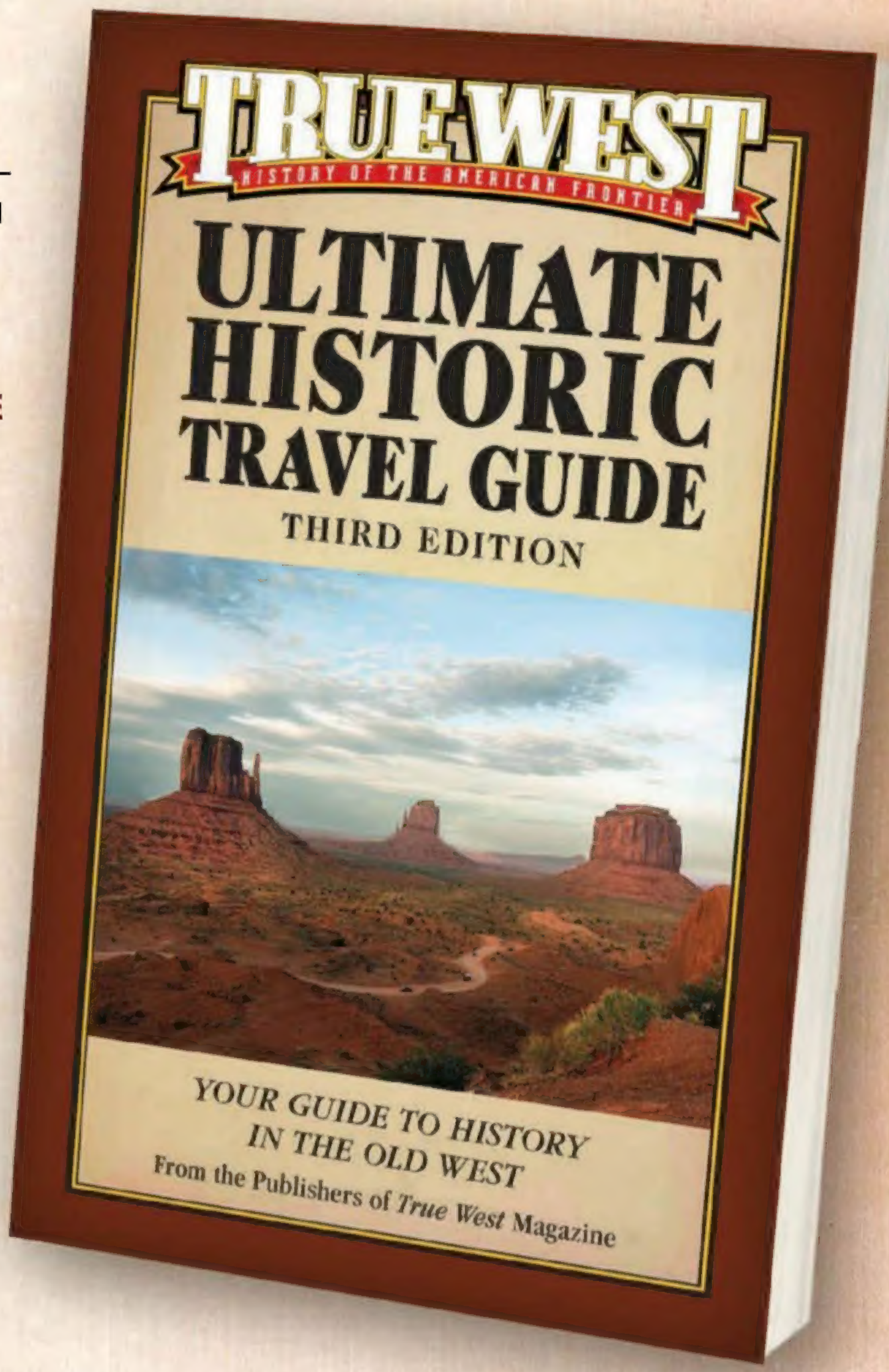
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